Thursday April 11 1996



Ine Guar

Printed in London, Manchester, Frankfurt and Roubaix

lan Katz on the new creationists

Was Darwin wrong?

G2 with European weather



Jeffrey's got a brand new book

The first hype of spring

Joanna Coles, G2 page 7



Fire escape Ways to beat a blaze

G2 pages 10/11

Report on standards will call for government appointees to work for nothing and demand tighter controls to avoid conflicts of interest

Nolan: End quango scandal

ORD NOLAN is to propose dramatic changes to the controversial to payments for those sitting on the public bodies, the

Guardian has learned.
He will say the whole basis of quangos, which have mush-roomed under John Major's government, should be reviewed and that people should serve out of a sense of duty, rather than Gassiel. duty rather than financial

Guardian inquiries have also revealed the extent of payments to quango mem-bers, which include a \$4,000-aday fee to the chairman of the Port of London Authority and £1.500 a day to the chairman

of the Dover Harbour Board. Lord Nolan's report on standards in public life examining local quangos, which will come out next month, will oppose all payments for appointees on a wide range of education, training and hous-ing bodies. Members should be attracted by the desire to perform public service rather than by money, it will say. Such a principle should be come the mainstay of govern-

ment policy.
It will also call for tighter controls over potential conflicts of interest among people appointed to serve on Training and Enterprise Councils, grant-maintained schools, further education colleges

and housing association By drawing such a firm line against extending payments to new quangos, Lord Nolan is certain to re-open the question of why large salaries are paid to board members on NHS trusts, Housing Action Trusts, the Funding Agency for Grant Maintained Schools, and the funding councils for further and

higher education.

Among the most dramatic payments uncovered by the Guardian in ministerial annual reports quango members are £4,000 a day for 12 days' work a year for Sir Brian Shaw to chair the Port of London Authority. John Maltby, a businessman who chairs the Dover Harbour Board, receives £1,500 a day for 10 days work a year.

Other recipents include Lord De Ramsay, a Conserva-tive landowner from Huntingdon, appointed by John Gummer. the Environment Secretary, as chairman of the Environment Agency on a £50,000-a-year salary for a 21 - day week Conservative



Sir Brian Shaw, chairman of Port of London Authority, has spent much of his life in shipping

Lord Bellwin gets £27,380 a year for a two-day week chair-ing the North Hull Housing Action Trust

Last night John Prescott, Labour's deputy leader, con-demned the salaries: "Taxpayers are paying through

former environment minister | first report into standards in Lord Bellwin gets £27,380 a | public life last year ministers are having to revamp proce dures for appointments next year to end the perceived bias. They will now come under pressure to review the salaries on offer for the next generation of appointments.

payments to people on

Among the strongest critics are the Training and Enter-prise Councils and the Scot-tish Local Enterprise Councils who have told Lord Nolan the nose for people to sit on Lord Nolan's new inquiry they want to remain operating in a similar way to charimentally reform this system."

Following Lord Nolan's ing organisations, many mak one on their boards is paid.

Quango kings

SIR Brian Shaw, aged 63, is chairman of the Port of London Authority on a salary of £50,000 a year. He was appointed by the Transport Secretary on a three-year contract in 1993. The department's records show he is expected to attend 12 meetings a year — a time commitment of 12 days annually — the equiva-lent of more than £4,000

He gained an MA at Cambridge, was then called to the Bar and joined Pacific Steam Navigation company in Liverpool in 1957.

He has been a PLA board member since 1987 and is chairman of the AA.

JOHN Newcombe Malthy, aged 67, is chairman of the Dover Harbour Board on sal-ary of £15,000 a year. He was re-appointed chairman last year by the Transport Secretary.

The department's records show he is expected to attend 10 meetings a year - a time commitment of 10 days work every 12 months the equivalent of £1,500

He had a long career in the oil and shipping industries. Previous employers include Shell and Burmah Oil. He has been a member of the Dover Harbour Board, a quango, since 1989. He is also chairman of the British Ports Federation, a private body.

Rven Sir Donald Mackay the paid chairman of Scottish Enterprise, has told Lord Nolan: "I report to you what the chairs [of Local Enterprise Councils) quite unequivocally said to me - they do not wish to be in a situation where they, or their members are paid. They do this out of a sense of public duty and that is how they wish it to remain."



John Maltby, keen sailor and chairman of Dover Harbour Board

Similar points have been raised by the National Feder-ation of Housing Associa-tions; the Colleges Employers schools. At most, further education colleges and grant maintained schools say self-employed business people or poor people should be reim-bursed for loss of income.

EU to vet monetary policy Tyson accused of sex attack

Brussels seeks to avoid conflict on UK single currency opt-out

John Palmer in Brussels

RITAIN will be required to submit de-tails of its monetary policies for European Union scrutiny, even if it decides against joining a single European currency.

The European Commission hopes in this way to avert a potentially explosive confrontation with the Government over pressure for sterling to rejoin the exchange rate mechanism — though the strategy is likely to enrage Eurosceptics concerned about ceding economic sovereignty

to Brussels. The commission yesterday dropped a broad hint that despite such pressures the pound may not have to rejoin launch of the single currency in 1999. But this is clearly predicated on Britain — and other countries unable or unwilling to join the monetary union — agreeing to a more rigorous monitoring of

national monetary policies.
The object would be to reassure EU partners that Britain will not devalue the pound competitively. Of the likely non-joiners, Britain has the most important currency.

The Maastricht Treaty already provides for sanctions against countries formally taking part in the single cur-rency which break agreed economic guidelines. But no such detailed measures have been agreed for countries out-side the single currency. France, Germany and other

governments insist some extra diciplines on economies outside the monetary union will be necessary to avoid currency upheavals which could undermine the single European market. One possi-

bility would be to pay EU grants in national currencies, to prevent devaluing countries making a profit at the expense of the EU budget. Kenneth Clarke, Chancellor of the Exchequer, has always insisted that he gives priority to low inflation, currency stability and economic conver-gence with the rest of the EU. He has hinted at a willingness to consider new inflation-proof monetary policies to reassure those who doubt the Govern-

ment's commitment to avoid ing competitive devaluations. Since the currency crisis of September 1992 the Government has, however, ruled out sterling rejoining the ERM. Speaking at a press confer-

Martin Walker In Washington

JORLD boxing champion Mike Tyson was last night facing new charges of sexual as-sault after an incident in a Chicago nightclub, but he is counting on the testimony of his bodyguards to keep him from being sent back to jail for breaking the terms of his probation.

A beauty salon owner, aged 25, from Gary, Indiana, rang Chicago police from hospital where she went for treatment early on Monday morning complaining that she had been battered and sexually molested by Tyson in a private booth at the Clique nightclub.
"She was visibly shaken.

fearful and in some degree rling rejoining the ERM.

peaking at a press conferturn to page 2, column 5 her lawyer, Jerry Petcet.

Austin

who claimed Tyson sum moned his client after see ing her on the dance floor. But the nightclub manager and his bodyguards said yesterday that the woman asked to be intro-

duced to Tyson and had never been alone with him. "He was was constantly surrounded by body-guards," the nightclub manager, Moody Andrews, said. "No alcohol was in-volved. Mike Tyson drank nothing but bottled water." Tyson is on the second of four years of parole after serving three years in prison for rape. Under the

terms of his parole, he may not consume alcohol or illegal drugs. Any serious breach would return him automatically to prison. Chicago police said last night that no charges had yet been filed.

Tyson's companion at the time was former world champion Oliver McCall. In e separate incident in on Tuesday McCall was charged with marijuana

Kevin Mitchell, page 16

Inside

Britain Doctors and drugs relief agencies ... yesterday railied to defenda Scottish social worker who said Ecstacy was

World News Sarajevo buried ... its most famous lovers, a young. Sero and his Muslim glatinend shot three

review authority, the Bridgewater case is it, says Jill Morrell.

Comment If ever there was a case that ought to be dealt with by the independent judicial

the key to the US Masters golf.

Sport Big Boys Inc. the power hitters. who prosper most at certain holes at Augusta, hold -

Comment and Letters 8 Obituarles 10 Radio 16; TV 16

When you receive your next tax return, open it immediately because we've enclosed some important information about Self Assessment. Revenue

Self Assessment

Keep an eye open for it!

years ago,

Rome sketch

Briefs in dock tout for votes



John Hooper

OU could tell Public Fiori was a lawyer. He has that way with

Mr Fiori is a candidate for Alliance in next week's genalso one of the distinguished participants at a book launch yesterday in the elaborately corniced and plastered confer ence room of a hotel within sight of the Pantheon in Rome He began, rather unusually. by complimenting the author

on his "courage".

The author, Cesare Previti, smiled in a grateful, slightly self-deprecating way. Mr Pre-viti is a fellow Freedom Alliance candidate and a key figure in this campaign.

Soon after the campaign began, Mr Previti was sent for trial on charges of having blackmailed the country's leading anti-corruption prose-cutor into quitting. Antonio di Italy". took off his gown for the last time 17 months ago, days before he was due to interrogate Mr Berlusconi about bribery claims.

Mr Previti is Mr Berlus coni's lawyer as well as the before the campaign began, it emerged that prosecutors tions that he paid one of Rome's most senior judges to decide cases in his client's

And the book? Well, the book is called A Programme For Justice, and it consists of Mr Previti's proposals for reforming the legal system. So you can see what his learned friend meant by

'courage". Up to a point. Few things could better illustrate the degree to which d from the standards of the rest of Europe than this bizarre event. One had to kick oneself to be sure it was real — that the party with the best

First night

John Mullin

Dundee Repertory Theatre

T WAS a remarkable show

of faith in the security folk;

John Carnegie, director,

had invited everybody. Strik-ers and scabs, shop stewards

and bosses, police and politi-

cians. All except Peter Hall, the tartan-tied Sassenach who

ran Timex and the universal hate figure during the eight-

the plant's closure in 1993.

Perhaps it was as well. The conflict, confined to the stage, might have spilled into the au-

ditorium. Hall, who had sent

two businesses into liquida-

tion before taking on Timex.

vided with a red carpet and a

The finest moment in Alan

somely overlong chronicle of

Timex's 47 years in Dundee, beginning a three-week run.

exander West majestically de

scends from above. West cap-

perfectly, if audience reaction

There had to be some mis-givings about this play, given

Ricky Ross, ex of Deacon Blue.

may have written the score.

but the opening number, all

luunting celtic pipes, hardly

augured well. There were an-

other couple of poor numbers

before the dialogue settled into any rhythm, the first half

dealing with Timex's associa-tion with Dundee up until the

dispute, which led to the sack-

Spencer captures the great

HE Church of England

has lost more than a third of its youth membership in

nine years, according to

research issued yesterday.
The figures, which will be

regarded as near-catastrophic

Church of England loses a

if confirmed by further sur-veys, are paralleled by a de-cline in Anglican Scout and Education.

third of its youngsters

had offered to come: if pro-

Spence's skilful but fear-

tures Hall's oily nature

is any indicator.

John Ezard

starlet on his arm.

On The Line

Chronicle of a

failing industry

chance of winning next Sunenhancing its prospects by · helping launch a book on how to overhaul the courts by a man who is due to be tried in

When another speaker said Mr Previti's proposals were "very very detailed", no one

But then, such is the politicisation of the judiciary — several judges are standing in this election — that many Italians are sure the arraigning of men such as Mr Previti is po-litically motivated, Foremost among them is Mr Previti himself.

The lawyer-turned-politi-cian-turned-author is a slim, wiry man with a toothy smile, silvery hair and an unexpectedly soft handshake. Did he not think the launch of his how should I put it? -

inopportune?
"I find it a bit 'against the rules' that people should be indicted because they are politically committed in a certain direction," he replied. It was indeed odd that so many candidates were in trouble with the law. But, he maintained, there were more on the left (under investigation over kickbacks taken by com munist co-operatives) than there were on the right. In any case, this odd situa-

tion could hardly be laid at the door of politicians alone, he said. "It is because of those who use the legal process for purposes that go beyond those for which it was intended."

When, earlier this year. Spain's Socialists selected an ndicted politician as a candidate, there was outrage. It may have cost them last month's

But there is no sign that the arraigning of Mr Previti has damaged Mr Berlusconi, who is himself on trial on the bribery charges about which Mr Di Pietro was to have questioned him. The latest poli showed the Freedom Alliance further ahead than before.

If it wins, and if Mr Berlusconi secures an outright majority, Mr Previti could have the chance to put his ideas into effect. Mr Berlusconi wanted o make him justice minister in his last government. In-deed, his book is bound to be seen as a way of staking his claim to the post that previ-ously eluded him.

post-war optimism as the fac-

tory opens in 1946. The work-

force is good and, more. is malleable, and the company

watches to the masses. Affairs take a turn for the worse as

watch-making is transferred

to cheaper locations, and Dun

schemes, including the three

There is a neat ploy at the

as the dispute begins. Carne-gie splits the stage in a man-ner reminiscent of how tele-phone conversations were

represented on old telly pro-grammes. On one side union representative John Kydd is

rallying his troops and, on the other, Hall is marshalling his

scabs. And, although there is little

doubt where Spence's sympa-

thies lie, he neatly encapsu-

lates the ludicrous nature of

the bolshie shop steward; the

dee is host to a series of mad

dimensional camera.

does well, bringing cheap

Labour leader offers low-tax pledges to prevent sterling speculation that plagued his predecessors

Blair takes on Wall Street

n New York

ONY BLAIR last night moved to prevent the currency speculation that bedevilled Labour ments in the 1960s and fund managers that a Labour chancellor would set corporation and income tax evels low enough to attract

Mr Blair was speaking to the US banking elite at the start of a three-day mission to explain New Labour to the

economic superpower. He will underline his low

he rejects leftwing nostrums that high tax is a "political

He will try to reassure the British middle class by prom-ising that teachers, police offi-cers and other public sector orkers should not pay more Mr Blair believes that tho

earning £30,000 to £40,000 a

year should not be in a higher tax band, but his aides in-sisted he has not decided whether to have a new higher Speaking to the Wall Street bankers, he promised that Britain under Labour would

be "a safe bet for foreign investment". It would be on

would be committed to pursu-ing a tough low inflation tarand macroeconomic

Clearly eager to prevent the runs on sterling that plagued both the Wilson and Callaghan governments, Mr Blair told his inherently sceptical as a tax and spend party were over. He also promised that the main elements of the 1980s trade union reforms

would stay. In a meeting with George Soros, the global currency speculator, Mr Blair ruled out taxes on sterling speculators, saying the speed and scale of

tells 600 business people that | innovators and entrepre- | transactions made such mea-the rejects leftwing nostrums | neurs. New Labour was | sures impossible. Mr Soros is that high tax is a "political "changed for good" and credited with pocketing El credited with pocketing £1 billion from sterling's ejec tion from the exchange rate mechanism in 1992. In his strongest indication

yet of his views on a single currency, Mr Blair told friends that it was 60/40 on 1999. Mr Blair recognises that bankers are nervous of the single currency experiment but believes they do not wan Britain locked into a second division of Europe.

He intends to make his commitment to Europe a strong theme of his stay, which culminates in a meet-

Mr Blair vesterday rejected Fortress Europe, telling the bankers he was "a passionate free trader and unashamed anti-protectionist". He said: The real danger both in the US and in Europe is coming

isolationist right wing." Drawing on economic thinking inside the Democrat administration, he argued that governments still had the ability in a global economy to improve "human capital"— the skills of the workforce. He with the Conservative administration, but key reforms in training skills, education and

cate path between wholly en-dorsing Bill Clinton at a time when Bob Dole has a chance of winning the presidency at the end of this year, and being seen as a future prime minis-ter. He would like another Clinton victory even if he feels there are lessons in the from a vocal protectionist and way the Clinton administra-tion was blown off course within months of its election. Mr Blair's schedule includes a mass of TV interviews; Washington cocktail parties and an embassy dinner, before his meeting with Mr Clinton and the vice-president, Al Gore.

Key players

☐ George Staple, aged 55.

(below left) director of the

Serious Fraud Office since

1992 and member of the

council of the Law Society



Lady Delves Broughton, who dropped her claim for £500,000, will be a witness in the trial | any point, even during a trial

Top lawyers fight legal aid case over £50m will

RITAIN'S biggest firm of solicitors is being taken to the High Court by an Old Etonian over a £50 million will, in a case which could cost the taxpayer

Legal aid is funding Domi nic Trusted in a negligence action against Clifford Chance, the world's second riggest law firm, over the will of his great-uncle, property millionaire Eric Hopton.

The case will fuel the furore over legal aid for the apparently rich, because Mr Trusted, with his older brother and their future families, is a beneficiary under a £1.5 million discretionary trust. The trust was set up as part of a family arrangement after Mr Hopton's death, whereby the beneficiaries under the previous and still valid will, signed in 1984, agreed to redistribute his

The largest individual shares, thought to be £5 mil-lion each, went to Christopher and Nicholas Hopton, sons of Eric Hopton's brother, John. Bric Hopton, whose Belgra via Property Company owned some of central London's

most expensive residential property, was drawing up a new will when he died of heart failure in 1991. Mr Trusted, aged 22, a student at Edinburgh university, alleges Clifford Chance was negligent in not ensuring the will was finalised and signed sooner. Mr Trusted's legal aid was originally limited to negotiating a settlement of his claim. but after appealing he was granted funding for the three-week trial, due to start next week trial, due to start next Tuesday. The Legal Aid Board has already rejected ar-guments by Clifford Chance that he should not have been granted aid. But Steve Or-chard, the board's chief executive, said yesterday that new representations by the firm were being investigated. He

confirmed that a legal aid cer-tificate could be withdrawn at

Former partner at the City law firm Clifford Chance. Acted for Eric Hopton on other matters and was one of the executors of his 1984 will, but the firm says he played no part in drafting the unfinished will.

Lady Delves Broughton (Rona), aged 55. Her husand. Sir Evelyn, who died in 1993 leaving ber £6 million, was a friend of Eric Hopton since Eton. She lives at Doddington Hall, near Nantwich in Cheshire. A nember of the council of Llovd's, she was a co-direc tor of Sir Eric's Belgravia Property Company.

☐ Eric Hopton (above left), died childless aged 72 in 1991. A member of the Lowndes family, he inherited the Belgravia Property Company — sold in 1994 for £48.5 million. His father and brother were partners in Clifford Turner, which merged in 1987 to become

es will include | Hopton family. She will be of the Serious | Witness for Mr Trusted. the director of the Serious Fraud Office, George Staple, a former partner in Clifford Chance. He was one of Mr Hopton's executors under his 1984 will, but the firm insists he played no part in drafting the new will.

Until last month, Clifford Chance faced a second negli-gence action over the will, brought by Rona, Lady Delves Broughton, a co-director of Eric Hopton's company and a confidante. Her £500,000 claim was to have been heard with Mr Trusted's, but she dropped out, agreeing to pay Clifford Chance £175,000 towards its £350,000 costs.

She claimed she was due a further \$500,000 after receiving chattels worth 2300,000 and 2500,000 in a deal with the

that neither the firm, nor Eric ing time over the revisions to his will and had not fully made up his mind. The firm is also expected to argue that the trust set up for Mr Trusted and his brother, who is not suing, is three times the size of the trust Mr Hopton meant to establish for them.

Mr Trusted's solicitor, Paul Whitaker, said: "My client has not received nor is entitled to receive any money under a settlement. He qualifies for legal aid on the merits of his case after full investigation of his means." He declined to say was suing for.

Bosnian Serbs snub peace move

Julian Borger in Sarajevo and John Palmer in Brusset

sexism the male committee HE Bosnian Serb leadershows to the women; and the intra rent-a-mob jockeying. All this is based on pains-taking research, involving long interviews with all inter-ested parties, except for Times and its boss, Norwegian Fred Olsen. All the characters are

real, and Spence and Carnegie consulted libel lawyers before going ahead.

As the dispute concludes, the parties are, in the depress ing soundbite ways of these days, proclaiming victory. Mary Dolan, on the line for 30 years, sounds the final note of the divided country. sanity. She had been one of

realises she wasted her time. "It is only now I am beginning to breathe," she ends. This review appeared in

Guide groups. Attendance fel

by 16 per cent among mid-teenagers and 20 per cent

This fall-out by the young is

far steeper than the 6 per cent

decline in church-going by all

age groups already reported.

Youth A Part: Young People

among 18-21-year-olds.

later editions yesterday.

the most optimistic but now

ship last night turned down an invitation to a post-war reconstruction conference in Brussels, in a cal-

tional community.

The Serb prime minister,
Rajko Kasagic. rejected the
invitation on procedural grounds. But diplomats interfor Serb hardliners in the Serb stronghold of Pale and a serious setback to attempts to promote the reintegration of

In a letter to Carl Bildt, the international community's High Representative in Bos-nia. Mr Kasagic said the Serbs would not attend the fundraising conference under what he called the umbrella

of a single Bosnia and Herze-govina delegation. govina delegation.

Mr Kasagic demanded that
the Bosnian Serbs be given
separate and equal representation to the Muslim-Croat
Federation, rather than forming part of a joint all-Bosnia
delegation.

Mr Bildt accused Mr Kasagic of reneging on a previous

agreement, and of further iso-lating his own people.
"I can only express my sym-pathy with the plight of your citizens. who will now risk becoming the victims of the political games being played in Pale," Mr Bildt wrote in his reply.

jevo said Mr Kasagic ap-peared to have bowed to pres-sure from the Bosnian Serb

leader, Radovan Karadzic. As an indicted war criminal, Mr Karadzic is unable to attend international conferences, and is banned from standing for office under the Dayton accord. He and other Serb hardliners have been campaigning to undermine the peace settlement. In his reply to Mr Kasagic, Mr Bildt left the door open for

a last-minute change of heart by the Serbs.
The invitation to partici-

The invitation to partici-pate ... naturally still stands. We have no intention whatso-ever to isolate you — but we cannot prevent you from iso-lating yourself from the benefits of co-operation and recon-struction." the letter said. Earlier yesterday, the Euro-pean Union cleared the way

for diplomatic recognition of former Yugoslavia and invited national conference on economic ald and reconstruction. The Italian presidency of the EU said an agreement on mutual recognition between Serbia and Montenegro — the rump Yugoslavia — and Mac-

edonia had removed the last obstacle to the EU's recognition of Belgrade.
There was concern, how ever, that the international community was downplaying promises to link economic aid

and press freedom. Destroyed by those who Western diplomats in Sara- hate, page 6

to democracy, human rights

EC to vet monetary policy in move to avert currency conflict

continued from page 1 ence in Brussels ahead of a meeting of EU finance minis-ters in Italy this weekend, the European commissioner for economic affairs, Yves Thibault de Silguy, dismissed reports that Britain would be

obliged to rejoin the ERM or else face trade penalties. But policies had to be thrashed out inside and out-

essential that all members states co-ordinate policies for monetary stability and economic convergence. But because the financial markets can develop in different ways we also need monetary

solidarity."
Pressed on whether memthrashed out inside and outside the single currency group, he said, to ensure stability before monetary union started.

"We are examining a number of different ways of achieving this goal." Mr de Silguy said: "The question of currency guard role and others who

mandatory membership of will be in the rear. It also detected the ERM is a technical detail pends on what kind of example also discuss German governand is not for now. But it is change rate mechanism is ment proposals for a tough essential that all member agreed. Participation in a "stability pact" binding those tary but participation in a currency, including penalties more flexible system might be for those exceeding strict mandatory."
The commission, together

with the EU monetary com-mittee and the European Monetary Institute — the future European central bank — will report to EU finance

countries in the single

But Mr de Silguy stressed that any such pact would have to be agreed by all 15 EU countries, not just those tak-ing part in the single

currency.
An agreement relaunching the ERM and fixing the terms of a single currency stability pact will not be finalised until later this year.

A Special Announcement

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Cruise between Aswan and Luxor on board the MS Ra

Egypt but prices have not yet caught upwith demand. Earlier this year we secured some extraordinarily prices for a superior product and we can therefore continue to offer cruises on the first-class MS Ra Nile cruiser. The tour represents excel-lent value for money since the tariff

and excursions. The journey commences with a di-rect flight from Galwick to Aswan to join the MS Ra. Ourweek-long cruise will include visits to the Temple of Edfu, Esna. the Temple of Karnak. the Valley of the Kings, the Temple of and the Aswan High Dam.

THE MS RA The MS Ra is a large Nile cruiser purpose built in Britain accommo-dating up to 140 passengers. Facili-ties on board include a restaurant.

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October 7, 14, 21, £485 October 28.5545 November 4, 11, 18, 25, 2555 December 23, 30,£555 1997 January 6, 13,£485

February 3, 10, 17, 24-6545 March 3. 10, 17.5510 Single cabin £150 Middle deck £65 Upper deck £125 Abu Simbel (by road) £69 **Price includes:** return art i rovel, i ransiers. Ngistann the Ka, full board, excersions, ioc 0171-616 1000 VN

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The distribution to have



The Titanic goes down with lights still blazing and crew and passengers on board while others escape in lifeboats

Titanic 'peepshow' riles last survivors

Plans to floodlight the wreck to entertain luxury cruise passengers have sparked horror, writes John Ezard

HE Titanic, the first | iceberg &4 and most potent single disaster of its century, generated fresh controversy last night when a plan was disclosed to floodlight the wreck as a live television peepshow for

luxury cruise passengers. The decade since the hulk as discovered by Robert Ballard, two miles down on the seabed, has been marked by tension between the lure of commercial exploitation and reverence ariy ali survivors now dead, fears are grow-ing that the balance has tilted in favour of

The new plans for the ship - which was hit by an | company which owns sal- |

84 years ago this ad — were last night described as "horrible" by one of the survivors.
"My father's body may still be on that vessel — and

yet they are going to use it as a kind of entertainment," said Millvena Dean, who was nine weeks' old when the ship sank in 1912, killing 1,523 people.

Dorothy Kendali, daughter of the survivor Edith

Haisman, aged 99, of South-ampton, said: "My mother

The Titanic "cruise expedition" was unveiled in New York yesterday by George Tulloch, president of RMS Titanic Inc, the



Potential star Kate Winslet (left), Robert Ballard who found the wreck, and how a New York paper broke the news age rights to the wreck.

Passengers on the cruise ship Royal Majesty, due to tail than has been possible before", using "the most powerful bank of underwater photography lights ever assembled".

to hire extra cruise ships with the same facilities. Cameras will also show

allowing camera shots covering more than 300ft, the size of a football field. Picture This will be the star feature tures will be beamed live by of the planned worldwide closed-circuit television to touring exhibition aboard a the Royal Majesty. RMS Titanic Inc said it was trying style.

The scheme to raise part of the hull has tacit ap-proval from the Interna-Its whole bow will be lit, the raising of a section of tional Titanic Committee,

tion and fend off charges of grave-robbing after last

year's exhibition of Titanic

committee. Ms Dean, who lives in the New Forest, said: "George

was not in the original scheme put before the

Tulloch phoned me a month or so ago and said I was in the brochure for this expedition. I got the impression it was some sort of historic event for oceanographers.
"I am now writing to him to say that he cannot use my name. I have heard the cruise ship is going to have slot machines and all sorts

of entertainment. It's more of a show. When I think of all those people down there, I don't like the idea." Steve Rigby, president of the British Titanic Society, which holds its annual con-

this weekend, said: "The trouble is that a lot of enthusiasts will want to pay to go on this cruise ... But

Police chief's 90mph dash

at 90mph by his own officers. Yesterday his local police authority expressed regret at the offence and said any poss-

cussed at its next meeting.
The Chief Constable of Cambridgeshire, Ben Gunn, was stopped by traffic officers driving south on the M11 just efore 9am last Saturday. He was off duty and at the wheel of his own Rover 620. The

speed limit is 70mph.
Mr Gunn, the secretary o the terrorism committee the Association of Chief Police Officers, was issued with a fixed penalty ticket requiring him to pay a £40 fine, which he has done.

In a statement yesterday, Mr Gunn said: 'I naturally very limit. I was correctly reported formed the police authority

Cambridgeshire police au-thority, said: "It is with regret that the authority has learned of the chief constable's penalty for speeding. [It] will be considering how the the light of all the details." It meets on May 32.

Ed Murphy, Labour's spokesman on the authority, said: "My personal opinion is that it shouldn't endanger his position, although it's a matserious consideration." He added the incident demon-strated Cambridgeshire

police dealt with everyone in an equally fair way. Police sources indicated last night that it was extremely unlikely any action would be taken against Mr Gunn. Other senior officers who have been serious driving offences have not been disciplined.

Mr Gunn, aged 52, one of Britain's best-known chief constables, has held his current post for two years. He served in the Met, spending 36 years with Special Branch. In January 1988 he was appointed commander (opera-tions) Special Branch. He is one of a growing

was revealed that the Assis-tant Chief Constable of Notbeen fined £51 and banned for 12 months after admitting

Officers who pick up driv-ing offences can lose their jobs, although this normally only applies to serious o section is said to be broken
off and lying on the seabed.
Mr Tulloch has promised
to respect the ship's status
as a grave by not breaching
its interior. But the cruise

The got to be done
the ship's factfully."

Earlier this year, a Hollywood company took secret
shots inside the ship for a
film staring Oscar-nominated actress Kate Winslet. In December, Detective Con-stable David Hale was sacked by Northumbria police for drink-driving after he had

Rail sell-off chief quits

Franchising Director to go two years early in privatisation blow

Rebecca Smithers Political Correspondent

HE Government's rail privatisation plans suf-fered a serious blow yesterday, as the executive in charge of franchising passenger services announced he plans to step down two years earlier than planned. Franchising Director Roger

Salmon said he felt the pro-gramme would be at an advanced stage by the time he leaves in the autumn — and his most important task would have been completed before his role changes into a more supervisory one. But political sources said his decision had "a great deal

to do with uncertainty about the job under a Labour goernment and its plans for the Labour seized on the news as more evidence of "the rats deserting the sinking ship" and said it had prompted the party to hold a long-awaited

debate on rail privatisation next Wednesday, in what is

set to be the first test of the

Government's reduced major-ity of one after its expected

South-East by election.

Mr Salmon, aged 50, who was appointed by the Government, is one of the most powerful. erful people overseeing the sale of the railways, in charge of the vetting and selection of the private sector owners tak ing over the 35 train operating companies from British Rail. He was appointed in January 1993 by then trans-port secretary, John Mac-Gregor, for a five-year term. But yesterday Mr Salmor said he would stand down in

October when he expected to have reached the targets he set himself when he took the £130,000-a-year job. The Transport Secretary, Sir George Young, greeted the announcement "with regret" and paid tribute to Mr Salmon's "leadership and successes." He was told of Mr Salmon's decision in Decem-ber, and falled to persuade

him to change his mind. Yesterday Mr Salmon in sisted his decision was based "on the success of franchising", and the fact that his role - and that of his Office of Rail Passenger Franchising better than most — will change drastically chaos lies ahead".

once the franchises are all in private sector hands. So far only four lines have been sold off. but two more are due to be privatised in the next couple of weeks and bids have been invited for seven others.

The next sale expected to be announced is of Network SouthCentral to the French water giant, Compagnie Gen-erale des Eaux. The Franchis-ing Director will in future be a Franchise Manager, moni-toring the page constitute to toring the new operators to ensure they adhers to the terms of their legally complex franchising agreements. A Labour government's plans to freeze franchising would wipe out Mr Salmon's role. Labour would scrap his

job, and absorb the bulk of his office's work into the British Railways Board, which it wants to revive. The shadow transport sec-retary. Clare Short, said last night: "His announcement clearly shows that even those charged with privatising the railways know that the whole

process is falling apart."

Labour's rail spokesman,
Brian Wilson, said: "Anyone
thinking of investing in Railtrack is bound to wonder why such a key figure in the priva-tisation process is getting out at this stage. He will know better than most just what

Ministers approve 12-lane M25

Rebecca Smithers

HE Government is to press ahead with plans to wirien the busiest section of the M25 to up to 12 lanes. The move was welcomed by business groups but con-

demned by Labour as "yester-day's answer to traffic problems".

A consultation exercise is being launched today for the 193.8 million scheme. The plan is to widen the existing four lanes each way to five from junctions 12 (MI exit) to 14 (A3113 exit/access to 14 (A3113 exit/access to Heathrow Terminal 4), and to six each way up to junction 15 (M4 exit). The road would be the only stretch of motorway in Britain with more than eight lanes, but can be built without a full public inquiry because work will be within existing highway boundaries.

Transport minister John Watts yesterday insisted the plans were "an important step forward in the relief of

congestion for this very busy motorway. Not only are these proposals good value for money, but taken along with the introduction of variable

will accommodate traffic growth well into the next

But Labour's transport spokesman, Graham Allen, said the plans were "yester-day's answer to traffic prob-lems. Congestion on the M25 does need to be tackled, but this scheme will only gener-ate more traffic, and by the Government's own admission, the motorway will be swamped with queues within 10 years of opening. Do we then build a 16-lane

motorway?" Friends of the Earth said the scheme would encourage traffic and increase pollution. Roger Higman, transport campaigner, said: "This deci-sion will incense Conserva-tive voters. Sir George Young. Transport Secretary, is head-ing straight for the rapids and potential disaster for the Con-servatives at the next general

election."

London First, which represents London businesses, wel-comed the scheme, saying it would offer "enhanced access to London's airports" along with "the knock-on benefit of reduced congestion in central the introduction of variable London by improving the M25 speed limits last year, they through-route".

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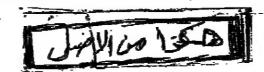
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Americans have always been less willing to embrace the brutal lexicon of natural selection and random mutation than their less religious European cousins. What is new is the aggressive effort being mounted by creationists to have their own "theory" accorded similar institutional respect to the scientific orthodoxy of evolution.

Ian Katz on America's Young Earthers



Doctors back senior social worker's drug stance

Ecstasy is 'as safe as taking aspirin'

Vivek Chaudhary

OCTORS and drugs relief agencies yes-terday rallied to the defence of a senior Scottish social worker who claimed that ecstasy was "rel-atively safe," and that there was more chance of dying

Mary Hartnoll, Scotland's most senior social worker, made her comments in a private memorandum to John Anderson, Glasgow city coun-cil's chief executive.

She was responding to the Glasgow Licensing Board's public campaign against drug taking in bars and clubs across the city and its hardline approach which has ruled out the setting up of "chill-out" areas on the grounds that this could be seen to condone drug taking.

Ms Hartnoll said the "en-

forcement" approach to drug misuse in clubs was legitimate, but would not prevent drug misuse on its own. The irony is that ecstasy, for example, is a relatively safe

She writes in the memo:

drug — risk of death has been calculated as one in 6.8 million — (the risk of dying from things that are said. an ordinary dose of aspirin is very much greater) and young people tend to know this. For every highly publicised death, those who use the drug regularly balance their experience of their own, and friends' experience of frequent, safe and enjoyable

veys very little effect in their Ms Harnoll, who is on holi-day, was unavailable for

inspire fear in young users were counterproductive. "Many people use ecstasy every weekend and do not die and do not have severe sideeffects. But there is no such thing as completely safe drug use while drugs remain out-side the control of the law." John Marks, speaking on BBC Radio 4's The World at

"There were no deaths from

ecstasy when it was legally available. The evidence indi cates there are no deaths from ecstasy when there are legal, pure supplies available and there is sensible health care advice to go along with it."

Ms Hartnoll's comments however, were branded "totally irresponsible" by the father of Essex teenager Leah Betts, who died last year after taking an ecstasy tablet on her 18th birthday.

A spokeswoman for Release, the law and drugs belpine, expressed sympathy for her argument that anti-drugs campaigns designed to and get her facts right before

of the Glasgow licensing board, said that some local authorities in England had "almost given up the ghost" in the fight against ecstasy.
"We believe the majority of young people don't take drugs and this type of message



Glaziers from Wells Cathedral, Somerset, work on a medieval style screen at Knightshayes Court, Devon, built mainly of teak reclaimed from Chatham dockyard, Kent. The original screen was removed when the house became a hospital during the first world war PHOTOGRAPH MARK J RATTENSURY

News in brief

Ashdown's attacker gets 12 months

A MAN who lashed out at the Liberal Democrat leader Paddy Ashdown with a four-inch flick-knife was jailed for a year

Christopher Mason, aged 51, of Yeovil, Somerset, was sentenced at Taunton crown court after changing his plea to guilty to affray and using or threatening unlawful violence.

Martin Meek, prosecuting, told the court that the attack took place when Mr Ashdown, MP for Yeovil, and the local vicar, the Rev Mark Ellis, were investigating incidents with racial over-tones in Yeovil town centre last November. Mason was reported to be extremely drunk and first he tried to knee Mr Ashdown in the groin. The court was told he then lashed out with the flick-knife but Mr Ashdown, aged 54, a former marine commando who served with the Special Boat Squadron, partied the blow.

Neil Ford, defending, said that Mason, who had made 24 previous court appearances, had been extremely drunk but since being in Dorchester prison for the past four months had sought help from Alcoholics Anonymous. Jailing Mason, Recorder Charles Whitby, QC, told him the knife attack was "dangerous, reckless and wicked". — Vivek Chaudhary

Photo licences on way

NEW plastic driving licences carrying a photograph of the holder will be introduced early next year, the Government announced yesterday.

The licences should have been introduced in July this year as

part of a European Union package which includes a written theory part of the driving test.

But an EU directive has still not been finalised. The Transport Minister, Steven Norris, said: "The public want them and they will bring significant benefits in terms of establishing identity and the prevention of fraud."

Leeson's wife takes off

LISA Leeson, wife of disgraced former Barings trader Nick Leeson, yesterday landed a job as an air stewardess with Richard Branson's Virgin Atlantic airline.

Mrs Leeson. 27, who lives at West Kingsdown, in Kent, with her parents, says she expects to report for duty on May 20. Her husband is in prison in Singapore.

Filling up for summer

SOUTH West Water is filling its biggest reservoir in an attempt to stave off another summer of consumer restrictions.

The company is pumping millions of gallons of river water into Roadford, near Okehampton, in an operation approved by the Environment Agency. The 8 billion gallon capacity reservoir currently holds 3.5 billion gallons, around 38 per cent capacity. South West Water hopes its 14 million gallons a day pumping operation will raise this to around 5.6 billions gallons, thereby the interest in the sections.

Street on Sunday

TTV confirmed yesterday that the fourth weekly episode of Coronation Street is to be screened on Sunday nights from the autumn. The much-leaked decision was announced by Granada Television in its latest financial report.

Granada had fought for a weekend slot because it will draw valuable London advertising revenue for London Weekend Television, owned by Granada, rather than for Carlton, which holds the capital's weekday franchise. — Andrew Culf

'Devastated' pub owner quits

THE owner of a pub from which the manager disappeared at the same time as $\Sigma 1.500$ collected for the Dunbiane charity fund said

yesterday that he was quitting the licensed trade.

Frank Newbold said he had lost his faith in human nature and was too devastated to reopen the Hope and Anchor pub in Poplar, east London, after manager Pat Southgate fled to Malaga. The £1,500 charity fund and £3,500 from the pub disappeared at the

Accident breath tests

THE Association of Chief Police Officers' national council yesterday agreed that drivers involved in any accident should be breath tested. Only drivers involved in accidents involving injuries or faralities are tested. Senior officers are concerned that a minority of drivers is ignoring the laws on drink driving. — Duncan Campbell



The horror that the pictures of Diana's thighs engendered was something like the impact of 16th century portraits with a death's head lurking in the corner. Even beautiful princesses get old.

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3 year Comprehensive Warranty or 60,000 m/s	induded	\$510	\$332	induded	induded	
3 years Total AA Cover	induded	With . WAITANTY	with warranty	included	\$220	
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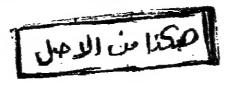
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Parole plan

Alan Travis Home Affairs Editor

HE abolition of auto-

by the Home Secre-tary, Michael Howard, could

endanger the lives of prison

The Government's former Chief Inspector of Prisons

aunched a broad attack on

proposals for the introduction minimum sentences

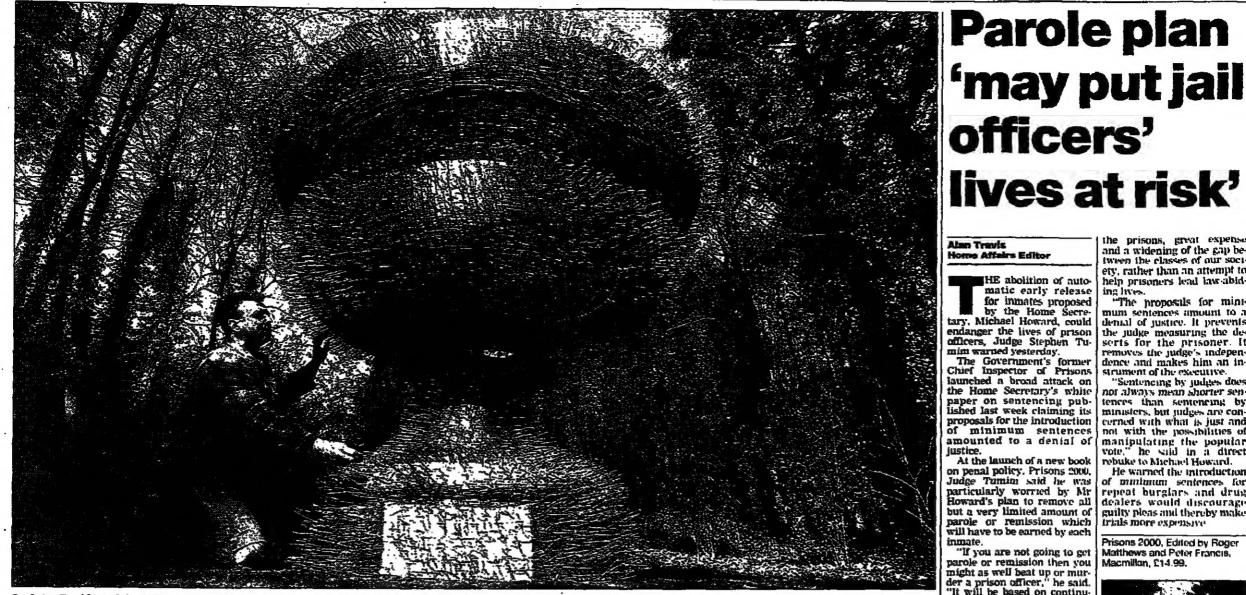
At the launch of a new book

particularly worried by Mir

"If you are not going to get

udgment of the judges. "What does worry me

matic early release for inmates proposed



Sculptor David Mach installs his sugar bowl urn sculpture, made from 6,200 galvanised wire cost hangers, at Hat Hill Sculpture Park near Chichester, Sussex. The sculpture was based on the largest garden urn in Britain at Biddulph Grange in Staffordshire, a National Trust property

Tory labour laws 'encourage factory closures'

ST OF

DATWOO

CAR:

NE of Britain's top export-earning industries has told the Labour Party that Conservative employment laws designed to attract foreign investment also made it easier for international corporations to shut down factories in Britain.

The Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry, ABPL vesterday revealed that it has been lobbying the Labour Party to ensure a se-cure working relationship with any future administration High on the list of con-cerns, according to Till Medinger, the association's pres-ident, was the fact that if Britain was an easy place for multinational companies to base themselves, it was also an easy place for them to quit.

"Many countries — France and Italy — have labour laws which make it much more difficult to make workers redun dant," Dr Medinger said. This was not the case in Britain. "In some ways this is an advantange of course — we have the flexibility — but it could also be a disadvantage when it comes to companies choosing which factories to close down."

The ABPI disclosed yester-day that in 1995 its members spent 25 million a day on

and with drug and medicine exports of & billion, created a £2 billion trade surplus for the nation.

After what he described as a "hell of a year" which saw the creation of Glaxo-Wellphamarceutical company, and the establishment of Pharmacia Upjohn's interna-tional base in Britain, the industry was riding high.

The industry put up a re-cord \$2 billion for research about 20 per cent of all research and development in Britain. But at the same time the UK stayed near the bot-tom of the league in the num-ber of prescriptions written

Health Service. The industry last year produced 24 new "chemical entities" - new drugs rather

than improvements on old ones — and provided work di-rectly or indirectly for 300,000

universities. The ABPI's di-rector general, Trevor Jones, said: "The money available for research — for the research councils - has not increased. In fact, it has gone downwards.

The association said it But the ABPI criticised the wants to persuade any future ciding how to Government's dwindling in government to take even Dr Jones said.

especially if it can be shown to reduce hospital costs.

"Cheap prescribing is by no means always good prescrib-ing, and it is important that the benefits of medicines, and not solely their cost, are taken into account when deciding how to treat patients."

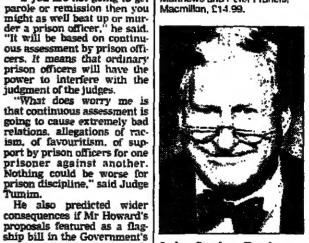
and a widening of the gap be-tween the classes of our society, rather than an attempt to help prisoners lead law abid-

"The proposals for minimum sentences amount to a denial of justice. It prevents the judge measuring the deserts for the prisoner. It removes the judge's indepen-dence and makes him an in-strument of the executive.

"Sentencing by Judges does not always mean shorter sentences than sentencing by ministers, but judges are concerned with what is just and not with the possibilities of manipulating the popular vote," he said in a direct rebuke to Michael Howard.

He warned the introduction of minimum sentences for repeat burglars and drug dealers would discourage guilty pleas and thereby make trials more expensive

Matthews and Peter Francis, Macmillan, £14.99.



Judge Stephen Tumim attack on white paper programme this autumn: "It will mean overcrowding in

Newsagents free to reject porn mags, says supplier

Andrew Culf

ORNOGRAPHIC magazines could be swept off the top shelves of many independent newsmany independent newsagents after a move by W H
Smith News, which supplies 20,000 newsagents, to
enable them to opt out of
stocking adult titles.
The newspaper and magazine arm of the high street

chain said the move clari-fied its existing policy, but campaigners against por-nography were claiming a partial victory.

W. B. Smith operates a

"box-out" system, whereby a pre-packed selection of items is sent to customers. Newsagents can elect not to receive the 80 adult titles in the package, but some complain that their wishes

A spokeswoman for the company said: "A lot of criticism has been hurled against us for some time, so

we have written to all the had inadvertently sent Mr newsagents on our database to clarify the matter once and for all to make sure we do not inflict these magazines on those who do not want them."

The company had tried to respect retailers' wishes, but the system had on occa-sions fallen down, she said. Hamdy Shaheen, a news-agent at Stoke Newington, north London, who led crit-icisms of W H Smith with a group called Porn Free Newsagents and Convenience Stores, said he had collected £1,500 worth of magazines which he had asked to be withheld. While

said the company was still encouraging newsagents to stock the titles.

Mr Shaheen, who is campaigning for adult magazines to be sold in sealed wrappers, said: "I would like W H Smith to start behaving like its family busi-

ness image."
W H Smith admitted it

he welcomed the move, he

The spokeswoman added: "We stock far fewer of these titles than others, and they are a small part of the market. There is a limit beyond which we will not go, but we have to balance commercial and moral obligations." Sales of adult magazines have risen by 10 per cent in the past year. The company's high street stores carry only five adult titles. Branch managers can choose not to stock them.

The National Federation of Retail Newsagents said the box-out system caused many of its members con-cern. "As far as top shelf magazines are concerned, there are cultural or religious reasons why a newsagent would not want to sell them," a spokeswoman said. "We welcome this move from W H Smith as it gives some individual choice to the newsagents."

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'Neighbours from hell' must quit council home, says judge

their council home in Wyth-enshawe. Manchester, after 500 complaints...

Mother-of-10 Kay Potts and her extended family were given 48 hours to leave after a judge at Salford county court granted the city council a repossession order.

A council spokeswoman said: "Members of the family were chronically noisy, used abusive language and threat-ened violence towards their neighbours and were involved in vandalism and burglary." Mrs Potts, 50, had been

sharing her three bedroom semi designed for six, with up to 17 people, after moving to Royalthorn Road two years ago. The council received more than 500 complaints from neighbours. The family had been evicted from their previous council house in Manchester for causing a

nuisance. Three of their neighbours, who kept a diary of the Potts's behaviour, gave evidence to the court after an injunction last year failed to have any

A FAMILY of 17, known as the neighbours from hell", are being evicted from hell", are being evicted from the neighbours from the many determined to smooth the neighbours from the many determined to smooth the neighbours from the many determined to smooth the neighbours from the neighbo "In the teeth of harassment uals were determined to ap-pear in court to fight for themselves and their community," a council spokeswoman said. Neighbour Gerard Rid-ings, 57, said: "To call them the neighbours from hell is an

understatement. They're an evil lot."
Mr Ridings had bricks thrown at him, his green-house shattered, his home vandalised and his garage set on fire. He said: "In the end I'd just had enough."
The council housing chairwoman, Claire Nangle, praised the "courageous" tenants for "helping to end a missures which has caused so evil lot.

sance which has caused so much misery. This is an im-portant and successful story in the fight against anti-social

behaviour."
The council's policy was to find evicted families tempo-rary accommodation while their cases were reviewed but the judgment made it clear that such families must mend their ways, she said.
A spokesman for Mrs
Potts's solicitor, Nina Ramsden, said she had no comment to make.

Manager grew cannabis on earl's estate EARL Waldegrave's farm manager was yesterday-convicted of growing canna-bis at his employer's Somer-

The jury at Bristol crown court unanimously convicted John Lucksted, aged 51, of possessing cannabls with in-

tent to supply.

He admitted producing the plants last year at Rookery Farm, on the Chewton Mendip estate of the earl, brother of Treasury Secretary Wil-liam Waldegrave, but claimed

he grew them as a hobby, solely for his own consump-Lucksted had also admitte two charges of possessing cannabis resin, one of pos-sessing cannabis, and a fur-ther charge of abstracting electricity to aid propagation.
Judge Richard Toyn
remanded Lucksted, of Clif-

remanded to cast the con-ton, Bristol, in custody until May 8 pending a report. Earlier the court heard that on September 14 last year police had raided the farm and found "substantial quan titles" of cannabis and up to

elepers i

'They were destroyed by those who hate everything beautiful and pure'

Julian Borger in Sarajevo reports on the simple burial ceremony for the city's most famous lovers, and the grieving for a way of life that was shattered by the war

yesterday, a young Serb and his Muslim trying to stay together while Bosnia was being torn apart. Admira Ismie and Bosko Brkic were shot dead on Sarajevo's front line three years ago as they tried to escape the siege. Their bodies were dragged away and hastily buried on the Serb side of the

Admira's family had to wait for a peace settlement and the reunification of the city to bring the lovers home.

Under an angry sky and spitting rain, the two collins were lowered into a shared

grave marked by two simple wooden memorials bearing their names. There were no priests and no prayers — just brief personal goodbyes from old schoolfriends.

Your young lives were deeverything beautiful and pure, but your friends have

ARAJEVO burted its | lng else we'll visit your grave most famous lovers | in a free town."

A girl standing at his side said: "In another life, we'll all be together again."

After their deaths at the age of 25, the press dubbed the couple the Romeo and Juliet of the Bosnian war.

eight years before the war. little thought to their ethnic identity. The innocence of their generation was buried beside them in a country finding it difficult to heal itself while crude nationalism still prevails over tolerance. Most of yesterday's mourt

ers were friends of the Ismic family. Bosko's family was scattered by the war. His father is dead and his mother and brother are said to be in Belgrade or Canada. Admira's parents accepted

condolences and flowers with a blank, uncomprehending mony, as the mourners walked towards the cemetery not forgotten you." said a gate Nera Ismic broke down man in a trenchcoat. "If noth in tears and turned back to

helplessly, looking lost and bewildered beneath the black baseball cap he wore against the spring rain.

war, Admira and Bosko thought they had secured guarantees from both sides of safe passage out of the city. They were double-crossed and gunned down in May 1993 near Vrbanja bridge, a front-line position near the city centre, a few yards from

In her dying moments, Admira crawled to Bosko's body and put her arm over his shoulder. Their bodies were left in that final embrace for five days, while the opposing armies squabbled over who was to blame and who should venture out of their bunkers to retrieve them.

It was never clear who betrayed the couple. Zijah Ismic commissioned a private autopsy this week which he believes proves they were

But his certainty has brought little consolation. "It's more important to bury them here than find out who shot them, as they're dead anyway." he said. "I can't change what happened, can't

hug and kiss her daughter's Bosko could have fled abroad, small memorial.

Zijah, her husband, watched mira's sake. In return, she agreed to escape to the Serb side in the hope that they could eventually leave the remains of Yugoslavia for a

remains of Yugoslavia for a new life together in exile.

"They were so hopeful and ambitious, like all young Bosnians used to be," said Adil Hajric, an elderly friend of the Ismic family. "They all had such high hopes."

The chart fungral caretomy.

The short funeral ceremony seemed to crystallize the sense of loss which hangs over post-war Sarajevo. Recollections of Admira and Bos-ko's passion for life and for each other reminded the mourners of how lively their

city used to be.

Mahmud Masic knew neither of the dead lovers, but the old man made his way across town to the Lion ceme-tery to attend the funeral. He found it hard to explain why he had come.

He reached inside his jacket and pulled out a carefully-preserved rectangle of old newspaper. It was Admira and Bosko's original death notice, which he had been carrying around in his breast pocket for three years.

"I don't know why I kept it," he said. "I just can't ex-plain." He gently folded the



Admira's mother says a sad farewell at the lovers' final resting place in Sarajevo yesterday

Zyuganov woos with tales of woe

Pact sours Turkish-Arab ties

Chris Nuttall in Ankara

its Muslim neighbours and the Arab world were further soured yesterday when it announced that it had asked Iran to withdraw four of its diplomats for "activities incompatible with their status".

The foreign ministry said four Turkish diplomats. accused by Tehran of spying, would also be recalled. "Our diplomats carried out their duties in accordance with international law," the

ministry's spokesman, Omer Akbel, said. "They have been accused unjustly." The Iranian diplomats had been named as his contacts by an Islamic fundamentalist

'hitman" arrested in Istanbul He is wanted in connection with the assassination of Iranian dissidents and promi-

lows a week of intense critical abstain from any form of mili-cism of Turkey for signing a tary co-operation with Israel military co-operation deal with Israel. Islamic countries regard the deal as a betrayal and the formation of a new

axis to threaten them.

The Arab League said it was "an act of aggression" and in a direct threat against Syria. Lebanon and Iraq as well as other Arab countries [which] shows the evil inten-

towards the Arabs" The Egyptian foreign min-ister. Amr Musa, said it was

very dangerous in relation to the region's security: this will create new tensions in the Middle East" Iranian newspapers commented: "We now have to

The Iraqi press said the deal would "encourage the Zionist entity to continue its

flights in Turkish airspace.
"The planes do not carry weapons, ammunition or intelligence equipment." Mr Akbel said yesterday, con-firming that the flights had

He said relations with Israel had been developing worry about the presence of since the start of the Middle East peace process, but Turkey still supported Arab countries demanding the return of invaded lands. Tur-

Libya called the military agreement 'a dangerous breakthrough which serves Israel's plans to dominate the region'

Syria reminded Turkey of the Organisation of the Is-lamic Conference resolution The tit-for-tat exchange fol- that all OIC members should while it continued to occupy Arab land.

Libya said the accord gave the Israelis "a dangerous and vulgar breakthrough which will serve their plans to domi-

CARE-FREE

policy of occupation and in the region improving rela-colonisation." in the region improving rela-tions with Israel, he said.

Suleyman Demirel made the first official visit by a Turkish president to Israel last month and signed four

trade agreements. The Israelis are planning to each year. Although Turkey is a Mus lim republic, its secular gov-

the only Western-style democ-racies in the Middle East and both are establishing closer

Turkey and Israel are work ing on a project to collect and ship water from the Manav Manavgat surplus to Israel.
Turkey is in dispute with
Syria and Iraq about the

amount of water its dams

Jordan, Oman and Qatar to countering the Turco-Israeli

"Turkey has been too much pro-Arab in the past," said Suha Bolukbasi, a professor of international relations in Ankara. "Now it's become too

key's national interest. Israel does not have that much to offer and this is creating unnecessary tensions. A military co-operation agreement between Turkey and Israel or any other country in the region is unprecedented, but I don't think it's as comprehensive as its opponents fear."

Turkish security forces

Afghan immigrants and ar-rested eight others on Turkey's border with Iran, the Anatolian news agency said

fighter bombers. Visa requirements have been dropped, and 300,000 Israelis are taking holidays in Turkey

ties with the European Union. On the key issue of water shortages in the Middle East,

gat river. Turkey is the only country in the region with ex-cess water and would sell the

allow to flow down the Tigris

ris Yeltsin's private jet, which has yet to be deliv-ered to the president for lack of money. The trony much pro-Israeli.
"I don't think this is in Tur-

audience. Vyachslav Kuzmin, chief of foreign economic co-op-eration, squirmed as he ex-plained the difficulties faced by the factory. There were suspicians in Voro-nezh that their arch-rival Boeing was trying to stop Rockwell-Collins delivercontracted to supply.
"Boeing tried to put the

yesterday.
The agency said a fight broke out between the Afghans and Turkish soldiers as

der in eastern Turkey. It said the incident began when the Afghans opened fire in response to a call by Turk-ish soldiers to stop.

brakes on the programme and now we have a delay which violates the trilat-eral agreement," he said. He shrugged. The factory had at last entered the cut-

reports **David Hearst** from Voronezh ORKSHOP Number | tially huge market. By the Seven was a good place for Gennady anov, leader of the over 20 years old. But no Zyuganov, leader of the Communist Party, to one had money to build the

his party will not repeat past mistakes,

gerly to Mr Zyuganov.

Nothing in a Russian presidential campaign conforms to Western standards and, instead of trying to cheer up his audience, the candidate related statistics of industrial decline.
"Do you know what is the

biggest queue in Russia today?" Mr Zyuganov

was not lost on the



gar. "It is the queue for the He proceeded to rattle off

the statistics of what ap-peared to be a terminal de-cline. Did we know, for example, that 1 million Russians died last year?
Turning to his recent travels in Ivanovo, a textile

cause she didn't have any- command administrative thing to give them for distance which suited war-breakfast." distance which suited war-

down.
But despite the hardships which economic reform had brought, 5 million Russians were involved in self but our country." he

small business and to get



The Russian Communist leader vows that | asked. There was silence in | rid of them would start a the 150ft-high aircraft han- | civil war, be said. forms of ownership. I am in favour of every family keep-

ing its own plot of land."

Later that day in a packed ball in the centre of town, Mr Zyuganov laid part of the problem at the feet of the old Communist

This may be true, but the level of co-operation recently struck up between Israel and Turkey dwarfs efforts by countries such as Azerbaijan, Lordan Oman and Ostar to Countries at the Countries of the Countries are adventured by mill close are adventuated by mill close are adv The gloomier he got, the completely obsolete for better his message went today's needs. The party down.

> said to loud applause. Valentina, a 35-year-old aircraft worker, was im-pressed by the Communist leader's performance.

> "I like my work but I only get paid 200,000 rou-bles a month (about £30) and my flat costs me 120,000 roubles. I cannot have a second child and I want my daughter to attend university. Who do I vote for? Certainly not Yeltsin, but I still have not decided

whether I trust Zyuganov." Virtually barred from ap-pearing on television, Mr Zyuganov can only deliver his message by going di-rectly to the people. He aphad at last entered the cutthroat world of a fiercely
competitive industry. They
had good, cheap jumbo
planes. Not a single flyushin 86 had crashed in 17
years. They had a potenthroat world of a fiercely
competitive industry. They
had good, cheap jumbo
planes. Not a single flyushin 86 had crashed in 17
years. They had a potenthroat world of a fiercely
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years. They had a potenthroat world of a fiercely
competitive industry. They
had good, cheap jumbo
planes. Not a single flyushin 86 had crashed in 17
years. They had a poten-

News in brief

Israeli soldier killed by Hizbullah shelling

and awaiting Pratt & Whit-

ney engines and Rockwell-

Collins avionics from their

American pariners, Skulk-ing in the shadows was Bo-

with mortar bombs. The soldier died of his

wounds after dozens of bombs hit Blat outpost in the western sector of Israel's south Lebanon occupation zone, sources in the South Lebanon Army militia said.

In reprisal, Israeli and SLA

Blat post. wounds after dozens of bombs hit Blat outpost in the west-ern sector of Israel's south Lebanon occupation zone.

belonging to a criminal

organisation. Salim and Ikbal Abassi are

Sons of Algerian opposition

leader charged in Germany

AN ISRAELI soldier was killed and three were wounded in south Lebanon yesterday when Hizbullah fighters blasted their outpost.

They said a man aged 20 They said a man aged 2

sources said.
They said a man aged 20 was wounded in Yater after dozens of shells hit the village

Tension has run high on the Lebanon-Israel border since Hizbullah fighters fired two salvoes of Katyusha rock-ets into northern Israel, on Tuesday, wounding 36 people. Hizbullah said the rocket

attacks were in retaliation for the death of a Lebanese boy and the wounding of three other civilians in a bomb blast it blamed on the Jewish state. Israel said it did not plant the bomb. — Reuter.

Skulls found in jail oven

Cigeria's military rulers after they had charged two sons of the Algeria's military rulers after they disallowed the 1992 gention leader Abassi Madani eral election, which the FIS UMAN skulls, thigh bones and other frag-ments were found in the they disallowed the 1992 gen-eral election, which the FIS ovens of an Argentine maximum-security prison where seven inmates disappeared Prosecutors said the men during a revolt that ended on aimed to support two groups dedicated to the overthrow of Sunday, law enforcement offi-class said yesterday.

Salim and Ikbal Abassi are accused of involvement in a group smuggling arms to anti-government forces in Algeria. Two other men were charged with belonging to the group.

Abassi Madani is the co-founder of the fundamentalist in and explosives. — Reuter dedicated to the overthrow of class said yesterday.

The discovery was made at the Eif-fel Tower last night after a day of protest against the visit of the Chinese prime minister. Li Peng. writes Paul organisations concerned by political repression in Azul, in the south of Buenos Aires province, where 1,000 organised the shipment of about 170 gun, plus ammunition and explosives. — Reuter prisons. — New York Times.

'Shocking' sexual harassment could cost Mitsubishi \$100m

THE United States's biggest-ever sexual barassment case is being brought against a Mitsubishi factory in Illinois by the Equal Canada in which women as ambly line workers. Employment Opportunities Commission, on the eve of President Clinton's departure for Tokyo, writes Mar-tin Walker in Washington.

More than 300 women are cited in the government agency's case against the Mitsubishi factory, and each case could result in a maximum fine and compensation

cases in which women as-sembly-line workers were pressurised to give oral sex to supervisors to keep their jobs: another in which a manager placed an un-loaded airgun between a woman worker's legs and pulled the trigger; and a "gross and shocking" cli-mate of sexual discriminaالوقيع عادات

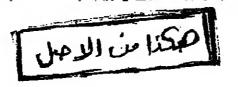
.....

tion and abuse at the plant. Commission officials said mum fine and compensation of \$300,000 (£200,000).
But even if the firm is hit with the full penalty, which could come to as much as \$100 million, Mitsubishi is under the plant. Commission officials said some women had resigned in the face of such humiliating conditions and, thus, were effectively fired.

2,000 join anti-Peng protest

BOUT 2,000 demonstra-tors gathered near the Eif-fel Tower last night after a concerned by political repres-

This promotion runs from 1st April - 31st May 1996 on all new purchases of Miele laundry products, dishwashers, refrigeration COVER and built-in cooking appliances Contact 01235 554488 for full details and Miele Stockists. Miele



India's poor are lepers in misery city

Charities are the only hope for the needy in Calcutta, writes Suzanne Goldenberg

INDU Bala Ghosh can rattle off the warning signs of leprosy with ease: white patches on

street, begging for scraps of

"If I go to talk to people, they turn away," she says. "And then I talk to God and ask him why he has done this

Six years after the onset of the disease, which can be deceptively slow at first, a wound is occing through the bandage on her right foot and her hands have become use less claws. Twice a month she makes the painful journey by rickshaw, train and bus to Chitpur, north Calcutta, where her wounds are bathed and she is treated like a human being.

For many the clinic, which operates under tarpaulin held up by bamboo poles on the banks of the Hooghly river, is the only hope against the

Run by Jack Preger, a Brit-ish doctor, the clinic is one of several projects for the most wretched of Calcutta's

citizens. While Mother Teresa is Calcutta's most celebrated benefactor, several other foreign charities operate in the city, many the result of sheer will-power of individuals moved by Calcutta's reputation of a city of despair.

of woe

Unlike Mother Teresa, they have no champions to help them negotiate India's labyrinthine bureaucracy and its sensitivity to foreign scrutiny

of the country's poverty.

Dr Preger, from Manchester, moved to Calcutta in 1979 after he was expelled from

camp, two medical clinics and two schools, staffed by 130 local people, including 17 doc-tors. A cast of western volunat a time.

poverty and the ailments that other doctors turn away from: tuberculosis, mainutrition in tuberculosis, malnuration in children, leprosy. The clinics give out free medicine and food, and pay for hospitals for the very sick.

At the mother and baby clinic at Tala Park, the mis-ery is unending. Nur Jehan's four-month-old daughter is so

ease: white patches on the skin, numbness and pain in the fingers. But when she developed the symptoms, she did nothing. She knew too well that her family, and neighbours would shun her, and that is what happened.

Mrs Ghosh, who still has the sindoor, the red powder in the hair parting worn by Hindu wives in some parts of India even though she has been abandoned by her family, lives alone on a Calcutta street, begging for scraps of Calcutta, Dr Preger says he

After more than 15 years in Calcutta, Dr Preger says he can see few signs that the misery has lessened. "There is a fair amount of intense suffering. It is very difficult for someone who is very poor to get treated properly."

Dr Preger was made an MBE in 1983 for his services to the room but in 1981 he was

to the poor, but in 1981 he was jailed for eight days on charges of operating clandestinely as a foreign mission-ary. He was eventually cleared after eight years.

Three years ago his pave-ment clinic in central Cal-cutta was shut down and he was forced to move to the northern fringes of the city, beyond the reach of many of the needy. Since 1989 he has been

fighting to get Calcutta Rescue registered as a char-ity, which would help bring in money raised by British and European supporters.

Last year Calcutta Rescue
nearly closed for lack of cash

after the authorities refused to approve a transfer of funds. It needs one million rupees (nearly £20,000) a month. Dr Preger says he was told that bureaucrats were sitting on the files until they could get their cut.

Since then Calcutta Rescue appears to have won a temporary reprieve. Last month, after a year of litigation, the him to bring in sunds until next October, and urged the government to reconsider its

refusal to register his charity. Bangladesh for exposing the sure the battle with bureau-



Narrow escape . . . Yvonne Dennis, a Liberian, and her daughter, an American citizen, run from a helicopter in Freetown yesterday to a Dakar-bound plane

'Ceasefire' fails to prevent Liberian exodus

ers queued outside the United States embassy in Monrovia yesterday hoping for lifts on mili-tary helicopters out of the embattled Liberian capital.

Tanks from the West African peacekeeping force patrolled parts of the city after Liberia's warring fac-tions appeared to reach a tenuous agreement to end four days of fierce fighting, shelling and looting. There were reports of

sporadic gunfire and shelling and a spokesman for the US embassy said he could not confirm that there had been a ceasefire. "There are long lines of

people of all nationalities that are trying to get into the American embassy

compounds," he said.
Up to 680 people were
waiting patiently outside the gates for screening to see whether they qualified

citizens, Liberians with US God we got out safely," one residential cards or passports, and third country nationals were eligible for

evacuation. A team of 18 navy commandos was flown to Liberia to reinforce security at

from the helicopter on to a C-130 cargo plane taking the evacuees to accommo-dation in Dakar, Senegal. The UN envoy to Liberia, Anthony Nyakyi, said a

ing as a buffer. It said the rebels had begun releasing some of the African peacekeepers they were holding. But fighting still sounded

intense yesterday outside the embassy compound.

'It was very tense when we left but thank God we got out safely,' a woman gasped as she took three children from the helicopter to a cargo plane heading for Dakar, Senegal

By yesterday afternoon 202 foreigners had been evacuated, including the Egyptian ambessador, Ahmed el-Misiri.

According to Comma Bob Anderson, a spokes-man for the US European Command in Germany who is with the evacuation team in neighbouring Sierra Le-one, about half the evacu-

tween government troops and rebels who have been holding hundreds of Liberi-ans, Lebanese and other foreign civilians hostage in a military base in the The BBC, quoting an offi-

cial from the West African peacekeeping force in Montions had agreed to disen- were doing little to protect "It was very tense when gage their forces, with the people or property.

ceasefire was agreed be of the UN development programme, said the cease-fire night have been only a verbal agreement, and appeared to be collapsing.

He said that tanks from the West African peace-keeping forces had moved into the Mamba Point dis-

trict, where foreign embasstes and the UN offices are located, but that troops

ranging from foreign diplo-mats to missionaries and Liberians, have fled to the US embassy compounds and UN offices since Saturday, when the worst fight-ing in three years erupted in Monrovia.

Mr Koulen said the 200 UN workers in Monrovia "We still have some mili-tary rations here that we can survive on," Mr Koulen

"It's not yet desperate, but in a couple of days, it will be."

The BBC, quoting a spokesman for the African peacekeepers, said that the rebel leader Roosevelt Johnson had agreed under the terms of the ceasefire to turn himself in to authorities.

reported that Mr Johnson

had said he would not sur-

Pass Notes, G2 page 3

Brando takes it all back

in Los Angeles

CONTRITE Marlon
Brando will visit a Jewish museum tomorrow to apologise for saying that Jews "own" and "run" Holly-wood, and have abused their power by insulting portrayals of minority groups while avoiding negative depictions

His remarks on CNN's

His remarks on CNN's Larry Ring Live television chat show on Friday were criticised as anti-Semitic.

The actor, aged 72, who won an Oscar for his role in the Godfather in 1972, agreed to visit the Los Angeles Museum of Tolerance, run by the Simon Wiesenthal Centre, and make a public statement about his remarks. The visit was arranged by Rabbi Marvin Hier, the centre's founder.

Mr Hier said Brando had telephoned him, expressed remorse, and recalled his sup-

remorse, and recalled his sup-port for Israel in the past.

port for Israel in the past.

"I told him: 'Marlon, I never thought you were an anti-Semite, but the words you used on the show were music in the ears of racists and bigots all over the world," Mr Hier said.

In films, Brando said on the television show, "We've seen the nigger, and the greasehall. We've seen the chink and the slit-eyed dangerous Jap. We've seen the wily Filipino.

We've seen the wily Filipino.
We've seen everything. But
we never saw the kike because they know perfectly
well that that's where you draw the wagons around".

Although there is little sub-

stance in his remark about Jews owning Hollywood — banks and Wall Street, including huge investments from Japan, France and elsewhere, finance the studios — some agreed with him that Jews were treated with velvet gloves in Hollywood films.

But Abraham Foxman, director of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, vowed to make the actor's life "a liv-

ing hell".

"I'm not sure it goes far enough," he said of the museum visit. "He's not a kid going to a museum. He's an adult who's had these views

for 25 years." Brando's agent Jay Kanter, himself a Jew, said: "Anyone trying to say Marlon is anti-Semitic has got the wrong

his client had used unfortu-

Gary Carries Off A BIG Saving



Emily gets carried away with Norwich Union Direct

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Saving

H. Peng profet

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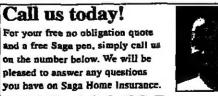
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An official smokescreen

Voluntary controls on public smoking will not work

something about it seems to be a good deal easier. Four years ago the Department of the Environment said that it smoking controls in public places. Four months ago officials indicated that the time had come to consider taking such action. On Tuesday environment minister James Clappison said no: the government had changed its mind. His about-turn was obscured by a smokescreen, if the word may be used, of useless exhortation. Some types of public places had made "great strides" in implementing an effective policy to provide smoke-free areas: Mr Clappison urged others to follow their example. It is doubtful whether many licensed vict- tion between deprivation and smoking. uallers or restaurateurs will even notice that the minister is urging them to take action. The DoE's research report "Smoking in Public Places" which he was introducing is also unlikely to be widely read. Government documents which are issued the day after a Bank Holiday don't usually stir up enormous controversy. But that those of the tobacco firms. Even though could not possibly be relevant to the timing of the release, could it?

This announcement is not of a technical nature: it will affect anyone who goes anywhere in public. The original DoE 1992 white paper accepted the need for smoke-free zones to be available in all categories of public buildings or accepts that just a one per cent drop in facilities. Its purpose was unequivocally to protect non-smoking members lives a year. It is unfortunately not of the public. Mention of "passive enough to rely on voluntary measures. refusing to believe the overwhelming weight of opinion. Everyone else from the Department of Health to independent researchers accepts that inhelications in the department of the proper action on behalf of the ill-protected consumer or employee. We need to know — from a senior not of the proper action on behalf of the ill-protected consumer or employee. smoking" now attracts groans and ridi-cule only from a small minority of those failure of the public or private sector to other people's smoke is damaging to health — and particularly so for the easy, then it should be changed back young and those suffering from respira- again.

KICKING the habit of smoking is hard: | tory problems. The 1992 statement set breaking a government pledge to do out a reasonable objective: to achieve would consider legislation to enforce has clearly not been achieved: only smoking controls in public places. Four schools and health centres have come close to meeting it. Last December as the report now published was in final draft stage, the DoE went on the record to The Guardian to say that the time had come to "honour (the) pledge".

The junior minister's repudiation now of this pledge is not only wrong but comes at the worst possible time. The This is not an issue of civil liberties and the government has a plain duty to act where health and safety is at stake. Even conservative ministers will find it hard to claim that market forces can solve the problem: the market forces which do prevail — perhaps especially when an election is drawing near — are the industry has begun to be thrown on to the defensive in the US courts, it still has enormous resources with which to protect its enormous interests. Banning tobacco advertisements is another issue which has been ducked in Whitehall — even though the Department of Health smoking would save over one thousand has changed its mind. And if it is that



Michael Howard might find himself paying us for his office

latest move of Michael Howard: intro-ducing performance-related pay to the been at a record low. Indeed, if the service. They are right to be suspicious | Home Secretary's pay was directly of the criteria and targets which he linked to each percentage rise or fall in would select. Perhaps a bonus, for ex- the crime rate, he could still be paying ample, for the officer who makes the the Home Office for the honour of his most recommendations for imprison- office since crime has risen by more ment in their social inquiry reports. than 101 per cent since the Conserva-But rather than continue to resist the tives came to power in 1979. idea, there is another option: insist on the Home Secretary taking a spoon of his own medicine too. If, as ministers | denies he is involved in operations but are insisting, performance-related pay is appropriate for police officers, teachers, the armed forces, civil servants, diplomats and even MI5 officers, then why shouldn't it apply to ministers as well? Indeed, the idea is not as new as might be believed. It was quietly suggested by the Downing Street policy unit in 1992 but quickly squashed by John Major. In the words of one academic observer of Whitehall: "a classic case of institutional hypocrisy: we're special but everyone else must be reformed." Time to try again.

Michael Howard is as good a guinea pig as any to launch the new programme. The key to success, as he knows, is selecting the right criteria. So let us be fair and begin with his strongest card: the crime rate. Three successive annual reports have recorded falling figures. A cumulative drop of 10 per cent over three years. But in the three previous years there were phenomenal increases of 13, 18, and 11 per cent or 42 and then privatised water qualified to per cent over all. So Michael Howard's | become Home Secretary? We think not.

PROBATION officers are upset by the starting salary, coinciding as it did

There are two other obvious criteria: operations and policy. Michael Howard thanks to the Learmont Report and the former Chief Inspector of Prisons. Judge Tumim, we know that to be a lie. In the words of Judge Tumim, dividing responsibilities between policy (Mr Howard) and operations (the Prison Director), was bogus and left Mr Howard "responsible for nothing at all." So the serious prison escapes under Howard from Parkhurst and Whitemoor both produce serious deductions to the Home Secretary's £70,000 salary (plus Parliamentary allowances). Then there are his policy initiatives. Let those be assessed by a special board: the Lord Chief Justice, Judge Tumim, the prison governors, the union representing senior civil servants, and the probation service. All have condemned the incumbent. If Michael Howard remains undeterred there is a further PRP element the efficiency test which bars promotion beyond a person's competence. Is any minister who sold us the poll tax

Rocking all the way to the polls

Can music help reconnect the young to the political system?

"I DO hope the launch of Rock the Vote | home too frequently, but often they is a success," said John Major in an have a fear of registration that started unstinting endorsement of the music with the poll tax and has now become a industry's youth voter registration habit. At least 600,000 drifted off the campaign which kicked off yesterday. electoral register as a result of the poll tax, according to research by Iain sentiment is controversial. An estimated 40 per cent of 18-24 year olds failed to vote in the last election, half of them because they weren't interested. and the others because they weren't even registered. It's not quite true to few are likely to vote Conservative. In say, as Demos did recently, that "an America it helped Clinton and here it entire generation has opted out of politics". but they are disconnected from ICM's adjusted figures, 54 per cent of 18the political system.

claim to have taken part in protests on and 29 per cent respectively of the roads, animals, jobs. Yet they don't population as a whole. But these figures always bother to check they are regis- exclude the don't knows and therefore tered to hit the politicians in the one obscure the real problem. Young people place where it hurts - in the ballot box. | are still disproportionately undecided This may be because they don't know how or when to register, or they move | Vote deserves the support of all parties.

McLean and Jeremy Smith of Warwick

University, but far fewer drifted back. That is why John Major deserves some credit. If Rock the Vote persuades would almost certainly help Blair. On 24 year-olds would vote Labour and 20 It isn't apathy. Two thirds of them per cent Conservative, compared to 47 and unregistered. That is why Rock the



Letters to the Editor

Get real about this world Chief Inspector evaluated and found to be incompetent

(Commentary, April 9). The environment is the sleeping giant of British politics which needs to be awoken; Real World can but help. I must, however, take issue with his

nowever, take issue with his statement that questions thrown up by the broad, environmental issue are not answerable by party.

For over 20 years, the Green Party has been campaigning on precisely the problems Real World high-lights and what is more prolights and, what is more, pro-posing solutions. There is no doubt that conversion to a sustainable society will be a long and huge undertaking. which will require more than simple political impetus from Westminster.

But such impetus is also s necessary part of a movement for change. A significant proportion of the public have doubts about the direction of our growth-orientated economics and would seriously consider voting for a change in direction and ethos.

Sadly, they know the Real World consequences of our electoral system. There is little chance of Green representation with a first-past-the-post electoral system. The

Men and vanity

the Conservative Central

Labour's past standpoints on

Anglo-American issues

though it does draw on a number of accurate facts set

which I compiled.

(Dr) Julian Lewis.

Research Department,

My vanity was wounded by recent remarks in

your paper concerning the vanity of art critics. Your

the Independent's art scribe and presenter of BBC2's His-

tory of British Art...urged on the Indy a Section 2 cover

What he failed to mention

British Art. Its theme is

Room E215. BBC Television Centre,

Letters to the Editor may be

faxed on 0171 837 4530 or sent

London EC1R 3ER, and by e-

Piease include a full postal

number, even in e-mailed

by post to 119 Farringdon Road,

mail to letters@guardian.co.uk.

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acknowledge receipt of letters.

Wood Lane.

London W12.

Deputy director, Conservative

32 Smith Square,

London SW1P 3HH.

cal activities as far b

Young for discussing the Real World initiative cause they can get away with cause they can get away with keeping their heads down. Paul Anderson. East Midlands Green Party. 68 Peveril Road, Nottingham NG9 2HU.

> ALTHOUGH a remarkable and worthy achievement, the critical influence that Real World aims to achieve cannot, unfortunately, be achieved purely by lobbying the main political parties. These parties are all con-cerned with maximising ecocerned with maximising eco-nomic growth and short-term profit-making in the suicid-ally competitive world mar-ket economy — the very sys-tem that is wreaking havoc on the globe and its people. The only way real political clout can be gained is by building up strong and active

building up strong and active Green parties, as they have done in Germany, Finland and many other countries Non-Green parties may pay lip service to green issues, but it is way down their polit-ical agenda. Only when they start losing votes will politicians sit up and take notice. Bill Hughes. 18 Goddard Avenue,

Swindon SN1 4HR.

HE lack of peace-move-ment organisations is conspicuous by its absence in Jonathon Porritt's Real World

initiative (Common touch in a real world, April 3). Secondly, even if something like Trident is too frightening for the Real World, the lack of any reference to even the "civillan" nuclear industry (in the run-up to the 10th anni-versary of the Chernobyl di-saster) is astounding in the context of the declared aims

of the project.
Thirdly, why is the whole thrust of this campaign geared towards the policies of political parties rather than how we can solve things our selves by changing our own lives? Lastly, if this initiative is to focus on standards to be demanded of others, then it shouldn't have so carefully avoided any reference to the most obvious underlying strategy necessary for the achievement of many of its aims: the need to confront multinational corporations.

What might look to ex-Green Jonathon Porritt as an exciting synthesis looks to others of us more like a lowest common denominator. Albert Beale. 5 Caledonian Road, London N1.

OUR nearby one-man gro-cer's shop has, for many years, welcomed each cus-

tomer by name as soon as he

THE core argument in your education leader (April 9) seems to be that Ofsted is "good" for schools and that its chief inspector should be praised for giving a "high profile" to "falling standards" and "incompetent" teachers. Conversely, you argue that the teaching profession is "too insular and defensive" for opposing the current sys-tem of inspection and its identification of "poor" teachers Well, of course we oppose the current system of inspection. It is hard to see how one week's inspection can tell us anything meaningful about either teachers or schools.

I'm a highly qualified and experienced support teacher, and spend all of my time in other teachers' classrooms. I see how they teach for 40 weeks of the year. Ofsted spends one or possibly two hours in each of these classrooms. From this they make their judgments on teaching competence or otherwise. My observations reveal a picture of teachers who do care about what and how they teach.

which they could improve it. This seems to suggest to me that teachers, far from being open to new ideas. Simon Midgley. 63 Bankside Lane,

Bacup, Lanes OL13 8HP. **JOUR** leader attributing continued failure of the education system to a seg-ment of "incompetent" teachers merely serves to cloud the

group is akin to the thought processes of totalitarians rather than to exponents of

the open society.

There are three unverified assumptions: that the per-ceived failure of the education system can be blamed on a group of under-performing teachers; that Ofsted is capable of identifying such teachers; that their substitution by Ofsted-approved teachers will improve

Judgments based on observation of lessons by teachers, administrators, inspectors and even pupils themselves are poor predictors of learning outcomes. The attempt to classify teachers into seven grades will be flawed. Pupils generally seem to learn best from teachers who are considered moderate and some even learn well from teachers

rated poor.
Critics too often rely on per-sonal childish memories predating the development of their analytic faculties. Their world comprises absolutes, good teachers and bad teach-Many will approach me at the end of a lesson to say that they weren't happy with the way they taught that lesson and then discuss ways in tainty. Playing musical their way they taught many in the control of the bad and the good remain; there you have it, all very simple and all reinforced by adolescent certainty. Playing musical chairs with teachers' jobs chairs with teachers' jobs achieves nothing. David Griffiths.

> 2 Forres House Cameron Close, Brentwood CM14 5BS.

HAVE a simple question for the Chief Inspector of Schools. How does he propose to find 15,000 competent teachers to replace those he wants sacked? W Glyn Jones. 31 Blenheim Road

issues; attributing system | 31 Blenheim Road failure to some unidentified | Bolton BL2 6EA.

Advice taken

THE independent evaluation of Citizens Advice Bureau employment advice that you report (Nearly 40 per cent of CAB advice on em-ployment rights is wrong, April 5) is now more than a year old. Action to set new standards has already been taken and more is planned.

It is a measure of our com-mitment to providing high-quality advice that we commissioned this research at all. Indeed, it would be interesting to see how solicitors would emerge from a simi-larly searching evaluation. Ann Abraham. Chief Executive, National

Association of CABs. 115-123 Pentonville Road. London N1 9LZ.

Pope knows

E your report on the afounding of a private school in Purley (Catholic parants in Opus Del sect to parents in Opus Dei sect to open school, April 11), Opus Dei is a prelature of the Roman Catholic Church. Its head is a bishop, and reports to the Congregation of Bishops, under the Pope. Its founder has been beatified. If anything we are known for our loyalty to the Pope, and have met criticism for standing united with the hierarchy. Your use of the term "sect", which implies the opposite, is thus unacceptable. Andrew Soane.

Andrew Scane. Director, Opus Dei Information Office, 5 Orme Court, London W2 4RL

A Country Diary

ROCKFIELD: The herd of ters. One was 2J49 and the whooper swans were grazing other 2466 although there was on a field just inland from the possibility that the 2 could rings on its legs — a yellow ring on one leg and a metal one on the other. Once in the past I have managed to read the numbers and letters on a yellow ring through a telescope but this bird was much too for away. I could have too far away. I could have tried to get closer but the birds were wary and as this was likely to be their last feeding grounds before flying north I did not wish to chance might reveal some secrets. With the telescope on the win-dow mount of the car I focused and found it fairly easy to read the numbers and let-

on a field just inland from this small east coast village in the Highlands. There were 57 adults but only seven juveniles, indicating a poor breeding season last year in their home ground of Iceland. The very first bird I looked at had this on its lease a value of the much rarer so-called by the much rarer so-called the sound of darker colour form of fulmar, commoner in the high arctic colonies and, as an indication of its rarity, I have only ever seen three before. One in south east Iceland, one on St Kilda and one on North Rona. When I did get back to a telephone the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust at Slimbridge informed me that the two neck rings had been put on the swans in eastern iceland disturbing them. However, as in 1994 by a group of ringers I was scanning the birds, I from Denmark. A letter has suddenly found that two of gone to the ringers concerned them had yellow neck rings and as these have larger numbers and letters the telescope could have been read elsewhere in the birds travels. How interesting that the air-mail letter to Denmark was only 25p.

RAY COLLIER

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out in the 1992 Central Office publication, Who's Left? It is amusing that Mr Wheen sees fit to dredge up information about my politic As stakeholders, we should rejoice at Tesco's decision to invest £20m on "customer care" by employing customer assistants. Employees benefit from the removal of 4,500 people from competition next the late 1970s, whilst hypo-critically criticising the Conservatives for setting out the political record of Tony Blair

Media diarist noted (April 8) that "Andrew Graham-Dixon, story involving a picture of himself and the question: Is this the new Kenneth

she enters the shop. He also helps to pack shopping, always loads my trolley for me and lifts it out of the shop. I only wish he could afford to time they seek a new post. Producers benefit from £20m additional purchasing power.

May we hope that some been undercut by the local enterprising petrol stations will now take courage and insupermarkets. Therese Griffin. crease their customer care back to the level of the 1950s 48 Grover Avenue, Lancing. tants so that we can get petrol and oil without getting our hands dirty; and even that bus companies will employ

by employing petrol assis roads, quicker journeys, or less crime on buses. Pauline Williamson. 1 St Mary's Grove, London SW13 0JA.

SAFEWAYS has gone for the cheaper option. On Good Friday we headed for our local store in Brixton to bus assistants (we could call do our shopping, only to find them "conductors"), thus also benefiting stakeholders with an interest in less congested Scouts. Julia Morgans. Corner House, . Main Street, Great Longstone, Derbyshire DE45 1TZ.

Fratricide among the Christians

was that my suggestion was a spoof, and that in the above-mentioned photograph I happened to be sticking my tongue out and impersonating an 11th-century medieval gar-goyle in the likeness of a baboon. Christians, I must take exception to Tim Montgomerie's caricature of Christian social-I hope your correspondent gets a chance to watch pro-gramme three in A History of ism (Letters, April 10). He may see "clear Bible teaching" on every contentious moral issue — indeed the magazine of the Conservative Christian Fel-lowship has enough articles about homosexuality to pro-duce ennui even in Peter Tatchell - but others do not. The point he has missed is that Christian socialism is not a doctrinaire, fundamentalist corpus of beliefs, to be imposed in some nightmarish theocratic future. The Labour Party is not a Christian Party nor should it be. If it is to be the People's Party it must seek to embrace those of all faiths and none at all. However, it is equally unacceptable to deny the right of any person of faith to seek inspiration or direction. Flintshire CHG. We may edit them: shorter ones

AT the risk of scandalising tion from their religious con-constructions among victions. Tony Blair should be readers with division among congratulated for providing victions. Tony Blair shoud be congratulated for providing an ethical and intellectual underpirming of his personal political credo, which stands in sharp contrast to the weak and rudderless leadership the country is presently enduring. David Cairus. Co-ordinator, Christian Socialist Movement, 36 Old Queen Street, London SW1H 9JF.

> N THE second century AD, St Justin Martyr wrote about Christians: "They marry as men do and beget children, but they do not practice abortion." How does Mr Blair square his Christian beliefs with his voting record concerning

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arro interest 1. V² (1. 100) · 公司第4条第二 — 12,55% **5 4** 21,25,176,176 $\begin{array}{lll} & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ \end{array} \begin{array}{ll} & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ \end{array} \begin{array}{ll} & & \\ \end{array} \begin{array}{ll} & & \\ & \\ \end{array} \begin{array}{ll} & & \\ \end{array} \begin{array}{ll} & & \\ & \\ \end{array} \begin{array}{ll} & \\ \end{array} \begin{array}{ll} & \\ \end{array} \begin{array}{ll} & & \\ \end{array} \begin{array}$ حيونجي وسا

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Dropping.

Matthew Norman

HE mystery about TAIM (Truth and Accuracy In the Media) - the Hollywood-based group whose newsletter and website invite subscribers to report journalists to a blacklist — deepens by the hour. Could this anonymous body be a front, we wonder, for the Church of Scientology? Last July, the Scientologists launched the Campaign for Public Reform of Media Abuses, waiting a full two

months before starting the extremely different FACT (Fairness and Accuracy Campaign for Truth) 'in the media". Founded by the late L Ron Hubbard (son of church famously hates media attention, and even more famously has major Hollywood stars like Tom Cruise, Demi Moore and John Travolta as members dence, it looks a fair cop— and yet, at the Scientologists' British HQ (a mansion in East Grinstead). Rachel Ryerson denies it. Is she correct? Or are there Scientologist imperson-ators on the loose in California? We will endeavour

HOEVER they may be, I will be report-ing myself to TAIM for the second time: first it-was the Peter Bolmondely incident; now it's the price of Major, Major (Memories Of An Older Brother), the new Book of the Month. Terry Major-Ball's classic work (out in paperback very soon) will be £6.99, an even better bargain than I suggested. Terry leaves for Australia on Saturday, for the Melbourne Flower Show, and we hope to have a farewell chat with him tomorrow. Until then, a short extract — the final lines of chapter one — must suffice. Soon after John be-comes PM, Terry pops in to 10 Downing Street one lunchtime and is invited to stay for a meal. "As we sat down - John, Norma and myself — I had to confess that I couldn't manage lunch," writes Terry, "because I had just bought a ple at Victoria Station. I had a good chat with them, however, and a very nice cup of tea."

HE march in protest against the Job Seek-er's Allowance in central London on Tuesday was, it seems, a minor class sic of the genre. A handful of hooded militants raced dramatically into the partment of Employment HQ at Caxton House, abandoned by ministers after the merger with Educa-tion) and scattered leaflets at the bemused staff of a private company. While these brave souls rushed upstairs to confront ministers (on what would have been the wrong floor, anyway, had the ministers been there), supporters outside the building shouted slogans aimed at Michael Howard. What-ever we may think of Mr Howard, and there are arguments to be made either way, he indisputably ceased to be employment minister in 1990.

OR Independent jour-palists sacked by Mir-ror Group Newspapers in recent months comes cheering news of a former colleague. A financial news service reports that, one recent morning, thanks to the power of the share option, David Montgomery sold on 500,000 MGN shares for an instant profit of £780,000. Whether because of such financial acumen or for the subtlety of his business philosophy. Monty has also been made a Companion of the Institute of Management. It is richly

Pape knows

EPORTS that Labour is preparing a more lenient, Murdoch-friendly approach to cross-media ownership have come as no surprise to West slung over his shoulder. The absence of any sign of a struggle made the murder seem even more brutal. In a blaze of publicity the police launched a massive hunt for the killer; when four men were found guilty of Carl's murder the following year, there was widespread satisfaction that justice had been Highland terrier Steptoe. Europe's top-ranked canine soothsayer (despite challenges from imposters Mys-tic Mutt and the astrologer Jack Russell Grant) foresaw such a move in his New Year predictions. He fore-cast that New Labour would announce an annual subsidy of £1.6 billion to News International at the party conference. It's come a little early and the minor detail is a shade different, but even so . . . that hound is quite uncanny.



See Major's friends come out to play

Commentary

Hugo Young

HE Conservatives are not dead. In fact, they're looking up. A year ago, something cataclysmic seemed about to happen. The great party was becoming anathema not only to its enemies but its friends. It almost didn't here every It almost didn't have any friends. The Daily Mail was writing it out of the script. Disaster. even meltdown, beckoned it still does. The by-election today will be bad.

columns of the press. The 35th successive by-election defeat will mark a particularly voracious Labour bite into the heartland. Nevertheless, important people with a rainc-

again with its examination of

the case of the four men im-

the case of the four men imprisoned since 1979 for the murder of the young newspaper boy Carl Bridgewater. During their 18 years in prison, new evidence has proved these men innocent over and over again, 'et the Home Office seems determined to uphold these convictions in the face of all the facts. The irony for the men

and their families and for

those campaigning for them, is that the longer the case

drags on, the more embarrass

ing it will be for the Government when it is eventually

referred back to the Court of

Appeal; yet the more embar-rassing it becomes, the harder

it is to persuade them to do so. When the Guildford Four-and Birmingham Six cases

collapsed, we were assured that lessons had been learned and there would be no repeti-

tion of such scandals. Yet this

miscarriage of justice, the last of the notorious injustice

cases of the 1970s, features the

same endless secret police investigations that lead no-

where and the same revela-tions of crucial information

years after it should have been disclosed to the defence at the original trial. Five years after

tion that justice had been done. The convicted men, Vin-cent Hickey, Michael Hickey, James Robinson and Pat Mol-

loy, were sent to prison for

I remember the Carl Bridge water story as one of those horrific events that lodge in one's mind, a sharp reminder of how vulnerable we are, how quickly tracedy can strike and

quickly tragedy can strike and

transform ordinary, everyday lives into a nightmare of unre-ality and grief.
Years later, Paul Foot's

book Murder at the Farm per-suaded me that the wrong

men had been convicted. The

case against the four men rested on a written confession beaten out of Pat Molloy in-

plicating the other three. It also relied heavily on verbel evidence relating to incriminating remarks the four were

ming begin to revert to type. They haven't given up. Their fortitude in the Conservative interest tells one as much about the state of politics as that better chonicled phenom-enon, the voters' desertion. enon, the voters' desertion. The nessage is instructive about the skin-deep meaning of Tory Blair. Last month, the Tories an-

Lastmonth, the Tories announced that in a year they'd taken sam at the box office. For all all-time flop, never before so consistently rejected by the people, this was in extraordinary achievement. Philip Harris, carpeteillionaire twice over, has proved a party treasurer whose all interests business can't resist. can't resist

friends. The Daily Mall was writing it out of the script. Disaster. even meltdown, beckoned. It still does. The byelection today will be bad. The polling figures continue to show a nation-wide Tory deficit of 30 per cent. But the household gods turn out not to have lost their power. The evidence is impressive. So is the reason for it.

Tory money is coming home. And the allies are returning to their powers in the columns of the press. The 35th successive by-election defeat the imminent prospect of a Blair victory almost as much as they did the remoter one of Prime Minister Kinnock. Prime Minister Kinnock One can, moreover, see their point. Though their

tance to behave like lem- The politics of class and money have not evaporated under Blair's ministrations. True, he is tolerated by the business world. He spends a lot of time showing he under stands them. And the City can see as well as anyone the way the wind is blowing and needs to prepare accordingly. These people, after all, will have to live with Mr Blair. But the notion that they might in any way desire him is an illusion, part of his smooth ascent into seemingly universal approbation. What

it really proves is how much this sleight-of-mind is Blair's

own work. Many businessm

all politicians, and the com-petitive business culture is unlikely to make a natural hero out of John Major, who nerty out it soom major, who shows many regrettable marks of a wimpish failure. But in their world, Major has delivered. The absence of the denvered. The absence of the feel-good factor doesn't apply to them. A widespread sense of personal insecurity may blight the political pay-off which ministers think they deserve for their brilliant record of low inflation and steady export-led growth. But it is perfectly acceptable to

Against it stands a prospect
of Labour that no cold-eyed
capitalist could conceivably
welcome: higher social costs, feat is sue

Jill Morrell argues that the continued imprisonment of the Bridgewater Four is a grave ongoing injustice which Michael Howard must have the courage to quash

Untrue confessions

tore regulation, greater tade-union power, and (bove all else) bigger persual taxes on the high-paid, of the business class seems a gross paradox. Alternative conclusions suggest themselves.

One is that business, not for the first time, is out of touch. Perhaps these are lemping after all throwing. ial chapter and all that. n short, business has good

son to have developed a is burgeoning not from into duty but the sense that it as a lot to lose. It has a spacesman in government whee rabid belief exceeds its ow, namely Michael Heseltin Heseltine's discourse, likevise, rests on more than dutul routine. He believes tha Blair is not just an opponen but a con-man. He specs with startling unin-vened disgust about the manest insincerity of this

pratig Christian turncost, not a mention the unreconstructed rabble of old socialists thind him.

On works hard to recall that less thing was once a man a the Tory left. This probably renders his more potent among the ragmatic business people whose sympathy it please Blair to think he has no suching and, as election day dres closer. Heseltine's voice i the one to remind busines where self-interest

The po deficit has never been so tubborn, and holds out the prospect that the Tories ill not rise higher than the mid-30s. They've

mings after all, throwing shareholdars money over the cliff into the arms of minis-ters who have done them lots of favours. They don't, after all, have much to lose. If Labour does win, their personal penalties, tax aside, will not be great Labour needs business a great deal more than business needs. Labour, and the Blair people won't be rushing to remove Sir Colin Marshall of British Airways or Sir Stanley Kalms of Dixons off the influence-Carousel. But there's another, more

telling explanation, it reflects what ministers are saying, and is underlined by the one polling detail that gives com-fort to the Tories, which is a sizeable fall in the number of voters who charge them with economic incompetence.
Other things yes, the economy not quite so much. This is what the business world will fight for. Don't let Labour ruin it. There's a plausible truth in that, though the votage and thinking about other. ers are thinking about other things like mistrust and inse curity and the decline of pub lic services. It also tells you why the Tory press, after why the fory press, after four years spent trying to de-stroy Major, will make a fight of it on his behalf. In the end, Labour's world has rather lit-tle to offer them. Major's con-viction that he's been right about the economy, with figures to prove it, provides a platform from which they

dence at the trial. This evi-dence should be tested not in

secret, but in open court, and in itself should be enough to

warrant the case being returned to the Court of

Appeal.
So many people now believe

that the wrong men were con-

remarked that one MP recently remarked that it would be a surprise to find someone who still thinks they are guilty. Yet the stumbling block is the iremendous rejuctance within the Grammont to face the

of Appeal where the evidence can be debated in public. A

Commons listening to the

Home Office representative,

Timothy Kirkhope, which in-dicated that the Home Office

has not moved on its attitude to the case since the 1988-89

appeal. Part of the Home Office reasoning includes reli-ance on the evidence of a cru-

cial prosecution witness proved at the Court of Appeal

to be a pathological liar.

Yet the people paying the price are the wrongly imprisoned men and their families whose lives have been shat-

tered by this experience. Pat Molloy died in prison in 1981; Michael Hickey has now spent

Michael Hickey has now spent half of his young life in prison; Vincent Hickey's despair at the recent Commons statement lad him to attempt suicide. The waste of life this injustice has caused compounds the original tragedy of the death of Carl Bridgewater, whose family must relive the

whose family must relive the pain of his death every time

this case rears its head.

No one can compensate
those involved for the suffer-

ventually it is set up.

ks ago I, Anne Whels

than in min-sus. They we lie to cale stood at round 26 per cent for man months, and if that's here they stay, they're fished. Surely they will add 3 more per cents. But even hen they'll lose, as many MI have already decided. The coming Tory defeat is sus common talk in they will. can come out swinging the old punches. However bad South Staffs looks tonight, it is worth remembering that

Bar-stool One is that business, not for the first time, is out of touch. Perhaps these are lemmings after all the state of the state royal dilemma



Natasha Walter

ERTAIN newspapers have been treating the changing appearance of Princess Diana's thighs with the kind of boggled concentration more understand. centration more understand, ably given to a change of government. The story began when the People made a front-page scoop out of blurry photographs showing her in short shorts, in which her thighs looked rather dimpled. The horror that these pictures engandered was something like the impact of 16th-century portraits with death's century portraits with death's head lurking in the corner: even beautiful princesses get old; even Diana is mortal. As the Mail put it, "there is justice after all" — age comes to everyone. But their horror turned ageing into something almost pathological. "Poison deposits, like slime at the bottom of the river" is how the Express described the cellulite, or "toxic sludge". "Only when the body is purged of these poisons will cellulite begin to disappear," said the Mall. Self-flagellation was ad-vised: heavy-duty aerobic exercise and no fat at all. When Diana appeared the next day in an ankle-length coat, "she was clearly deeply embar-rassed", decided the Sun, while the Mirror had an exclusive leak from the princess herself — the dimples were not cellulite but marks from

sitting on a bar-stool. That this constitutes a major news story for half the British press demonstrates a profound distaste for ageing emale flesh that is displayed throughout the media. Their eversion to the signs of age in women has not disappeared even now, 25 years after the outbreak of second-wave feminism. When glossy maga-zines publish photographs of women over 30, lines and marks are still routinely brushed out. Imagine the res-ponse if photographs of black people were routinely light-ened; yet a dislike of women's the Government to face the ened; yet a dislike of women's traditionally feminine, dependent sament of allowing ageing bodies is still so endent woman, she is still vulnerable to such criticism. It is

tion the process.

Magazine fashion stories are ever more the playground and other members of the campaign sat in the House of male actresses who have gone beyond a peach-like, nubile first-ever parliamentary de-bate on the case. We listened tinely replaced by body-in dismay to a speech by the doubles, unlike their male counterparts. So in the story of love between the over-40s, The Bridges Of Madison

old Meryl Streep undressed.

In the recent BBC television series, Our Friends In
The North, the only woman
among the four friends whose stories were tracked over the years suddenly got stuck. physically, under 35, while her male counterparts travelled on, getting greyer and flabbier as they went. Indeed, Mary (Gina McKee) ended up looking rather younger than

her own son.
In their continuing inability to react normally to women's increasing years, the media are now oddly ou of step with the experiences of ordinary women, who no longer tend to find cellulite a crisis that threatens their very selfhood. In one recent survey carrried out by Good Housekeeping magazine, 77 per cent of women said they were happy with the way they looked. Those aged 45 to 54 were the happiest of all, while 85 per cent of women felt the media put too much emphasis on looking young.

And when women do gain real power in any sphere, they can easily resist the traditional aversion to female ageing. Most older women in the public eye, from Kate Adie to Margaret Thatcher to Anita Roddick, never have to endure the vile carping that is real and solid, a cultural or political or economic force that bears no relation to their appearance, and is therefore unimpeached by the marks of time on their skin.

SIMILARLY, Emma Thompson can play the 19-year-old heroine of Sense and Sensibility at the age of 36 because she is not only an acclaimed actress but also wrote the script, and so has a powerful stake in the creation of the film. Anna Ford, Joan Bakewell and Joanna Lumley remain on tele vision into their 50s because of the respect given to their work; the first generation of women to keep their power on television as they age. But the tabloids can make a

story out of Diana's thighs because, unlike such women. her power rests upon her hus-band and her beauty. Her de-sire for an ambassadorial role seems to have come to nothing, and she is losing her place in the royal family. As a traditionally feminine, depenonly when women free themselves from such dependency that they are able to prese their ageing on their own

The moral of the story is one most women have already learnt: the best route to power is not through posing for cameras in bikinis or through the power of one's husband. If Diana found some real work County, it was assumed that and a respected role for her-the 65-year-old Clint self, her ankie-length coat Rastwood could make our would be read less as a sign of hearts beat faster, but a question mark hung over whether a normal desire for warmth. would be read less as a sign of embarrassment, and more as



original trial. Five years sher the Royal Commission on Criminal Justice was set up, there is still no sign of the establishment of the indepen-dent review authority legis-lated for last year. Yet if ever A.KRAVZE forensic evidence, no finger-prints, murder weapon or stolen property which linked there were a case that ought to be dealt with by the review

authority, the Bridgewater the men to the crime. Given the extremely powerful effect of Molloy's confession, it's per-haps understandable how the case is it.

In September 1978, 13-yearold Carl Bridgewater was
found brutally murdered at a
farmhouse in Staffordshire
after he interrupted a burhaps materiandanie now the jury came to convict them. Since then, however, the va-lidity of Molloy's confession has been demolished and most of the verbal evidence dis-proved or discredised. glary. Carl had been shot once at close range through the head and was found sitting on the farmhouse sofa in a pool of blood, his newspaper bag still slung over his shoulder. The

T the time of reading Paul Foot's book I' was involved in a cam paign to try to secure the release of my former boyfriend, John McCarthy, who had been kidnapped in Lebanon Although John's cir-Lebanon. Amongn John's cur-cumstances and that of the "Bridgewater Four", as they had become known, were com-pletely different, all were vic-tims of wrongful imprison-ment. All had found themselves in a nightmare through a disastrous combination of circumstances from which there seemed no way out I identified with the struggle of Anne Whelan, the mother of Michael Elickey, who had been fighting for 10 years just to persuade people to listen to her. Our campaigns had come up against the same walls of official indifference. But whereas my own the same wans of circum thin-ference. But whereas my own campaign could call on our own government to help John, the Bridgewater Four had been found guilty in a British court and they had the entire weight of their own govern-

ment against them.

If is hard to imagine the

said to have made to prisoners or other witnesses, many of whom stood to gain by what they said in court. Without of the four, could make his

very weak - there was no | rooftop protest to declare his | match none of the four conimocence. It was the longest rooftop protest ever, through the coldest winter in living memory, and it nearly killed

In 1988-99 the case was heard at the Court of Appeal. At that time it was unthinkable that people convicted by a British court could be inno-cent and that confessions cent and that confessions could be fabricated. Yet only a few months later the Guildford Four walked free from the Court of Appeal; other famous cases revealing miscarriages of justice followed. The Court of Appeal takes a different view of confessions these days.

its view then was that Mol-loy's confession was not rele-vant to the conviction of the other three men and the ap-peal failed. Yet the original foremen of the jury, Tim O'Malley, has stated publicly that Molloy's confession was crucial to the men's conviction and that he now believes the new to be imposent. One could ask what plainer proof there could be that a verdict is unsafe, but last night's Rough Justice provided an answer.
It included the powerful revelation that even the lawyer who prosecuted the four men

cuses on a different point that his con-fession could not who prosecuted the four men possibly have been in 1979 has urged the Home ken down at the speed stated Secretary to reopen the case y the police. This adds to the The prosecutor, Michael eight of evidence concentrat-Chance, wrote to Michaelog on the treatment of Mol-Howard expressing concernoy. His custody records also over an error in the conduct of how that during the crucial the prosecution — namely theoried in which he made his the prosecution — namely the period in which he made his non-disclosure to the defence onfession, he was interpreted from their own government them. The imagine the of isolation they the only way they, the youngest could make his was to mount a left from. The ingerprint rules governing the irrestment to discover who his left from. The ingerprint rules governing the irrestment.

victeden's, and proved that anoti person had been pres-ent she crime. Their exis-tence totald have formed a majorart of the defence case but is not disclosed until

recey, 16 years after they werknown to prosecuting coud. · Lanight's programme also ing caused, and no one can give the Bridgewater Four back the 12 years they have lost. But they can be given the justice they deserve and the chance to begin the long process of rehabilitation. The case will not go away, and if ministers decline to refer it, it will be one of the first cases to fall on the desk of the criminal reved new evidence relat-ing Molloy's confession, be-forthich he had been hit so harhat the plate of his false herwas broken by one of the bid. Former submissions to thome Office have involved the vidence of language as-pe who show that Molloy's fall on the desk of the criminal cases review authority when

pe who show that Molloy's cossion was not in his own was but almost certainly dided to him. The Home Co's own appointed langue expert agreed with the findings, but a secret rise inquiry overcame this dicular problem by providistatements from prosecuta witnesses who changed accounts they gave at the ginal trial of how Molloy's Those of us campaigning for them are confident that they will walk out of the front door of the Old Bailey with their convictions quashed, what we want to know is when. The efficiency of the judicial sys-tem has been debated at great length recently. Yet villains walk free while the innocent ginal trial of how Molloy's fession was taken. are sometimes convicted HE new evidence fo-While it is clear that Michael

> be seems reluctant to face up to the embarrassment of the latter, particularly in the case of the Bridgewater Four. While they are denied a return to the Court of Appeal Michael Howard's commitment to justice is in question. He has not yet made a final decision about the case, so there is still a chance that be will equal the courage of the men and their families and let the case be heard in open

Howard is determined to do something about the former,

Jill Morrell is the author of The Wrong Men (Bridgewater Four

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Un-American activity

ACK IN the late 1950s, Richard Condon's mid-life crisis as three duodenal who has died aged 81, was a successful Hollywood publicist. His wife told him that either he did something else or he would chew up his entire intestinal tract. So, in 1958, his first novel, The Oldest Confession, was published. The paperback rights went within a fortnight and the film rights within a month. The ensuing film, The Happy Thieves, with Ritz Hayworth and Rex Harrison, was dreadful. By then it didn't matter. Condon's second novel, The Manchurian Candidate, published in 1959, imbued the writer with a cult status that persisted through his subse-

Condon produced 24 successful novels in the years that followed, including An Infinity Of Mirrors (1964), Mile High (1969) and Winter Kills in 1974; but it was only in the early eighties, with the darkly funny mafia novel — and movie with Jack Nicholson, Kathleen Turner and Anjelica Huston — Prizzi's Honour (folowed by Prizzi's Family and Prizzi's Glory, where the organisation finally takes the White House) that the Candidate's long shadow was lifted.

and the Cold War. It dealt with risoner-of-war brainwashed in Korea, who returns to the United States primed for a po-litical assassination. At the time Condon wrote it, the redbaiting senator from Wisconsin, Joseph McCarthy, had just died and his legacy was an open wound on the Ameri-can body politic and a pres-

ence in his mind.

By 1962, the novel had become a John Frankenheimerdirected film with Laurence Harvey, Angela Lansbury and Frank Sinatra. It was, Condon observed later, the "sweetest translation" ever made be ween one of his books and the

The Manchurian Candidate novel, born of fifties' preoccu-pations, was refracted through the cusp into sixtlesfilm images, witty, scaring JFK's assassination in 1963. coldly prophetic. Where there had been a tortured Laurence Harvey on screen, there was Lee Harvey Oswald — "Tm just a Patsy" — in Dallas.

Apart from 18 months in Los Angeles, Condon spent the first 42 years of his life in his native New York. He grew up in Washington Heights, across the East River from Manhat-tan. The heights then was a iams and the Irish. Its geo-graphical situation paralleled Condon's development as a

writer, an amused, acerbic | nue saloons and into the pil- | the nineties, with The Final realist watching the great powers of society at work, but from a distance

politics, crime and money was an abiding obsession. He saw the political spectacle of American life, he told me in the late eighties, as an endless series of beautifully-decorated river barges. "Around the bend comes the Joe McCarthy barge. Everybody is inter-ested, they applaud, and it slips out of sight downstream. Or you get the Iran-Contra

The meeting point between politics, crime and money was Condon's abiding obsession

and titillated, or the presiden-tial election barge, and that is just wonderful."

Condon, the son of a lawyer and a Brooklyn woman, was the rich kid on the block. His adolescence coincided with DC and, in his neighbourhood the corrupt politics of the Tammany Hall Democrats were in full bloom. As a 15-

He was born isouth-wes

London, and bright up on the Essex Marres and in Devon. As a Spite pilot dur-

squadron was on scrambled so early that helew in his

pyjamas, shot den two Ger-

man bombers or France

went for a third- and was

shot down himse Thanks to

his non-militar dress, be

eventually faceda Gestapo

firing squad on riverbank

and, in defiance turned to

watch a trout risg for flies.

senior German any officer.

a waiter on a cruise line; obs as a lift operator and litel

By the late thirties, hewas

a "Powers Girl" — a moel — and through her, via stilm

called The Powers Gii, he entered the movie businss as

a publicist. He spent more than five years at Disny fol

lowed by 20th Century Fx. He worked, he said, for every

studio apart from MGI and

Condon and his familyset off

across the world. During the

ensuing three decads they lived in Mexico, Switerland,

France and Ireland bore set-tling in Dallas in 180. Be-

tween The Manchuria Candidate and Prizzi's Honer - for

his record in th movies

The Beatles bouht and

dropped A Talent Fr Loving

in the mid-sixties. In 979 Win-

ter Kills, an eminedy-plausi-ble fantasia on the Kennedy assassination, becase a film with Jeff Bridges at the presi-

dent's brother and Condon's

friend, John Husta, as the

murderous familypatriarch. It ran into "distriction diffi-

ing booths. Two years later he was going round the work as Addiction, featuring a charac-ter with some faint resem-1991 and Prizzi's Money in 1993. Condon did not boast any specialist knowledge of an advertising copywrite. In 1938 he married Evelyn lunt the Mafia: anyone who was in believed, would make contacts of a sort. And then there was his experience of New Yorkers during his first four

decades.

There was an awful lot of larceny there, he thought. They were people who talked fast, moved fast, thought in terms of sharp angles, wasted fast, and where they went the country followed. Just as the Mafia was another part of the spectacle, in the harges with politicians, legitimate business and television anchormen.
Times had changed since

the days of his youth and Tammany Hall, cigar-chewing poli-ticians, he told me. The costuming is so much better. Today they are so much more well, like beautiful hookers. As for me, I'm for home and mother and all those good qualities." He laughed. "I've just been disillusioned."

Richard Condon is survived by his wife and two daughters.

Richard Thomas Condon, autho



Richard Condon . . . Tm for home and mother. I've just been disillusioned

A river runs through it

aged 78, is of him standing on a raw winter's the making of his film, Salmo The Leaper, for the BBC's Natural History Unit.

Hugh, then aged 60, was demonstrating why falling into deep water, fully clothed and weighed down with thigh boots, should hold no fears. Thus did he fling himself into the icy torrent and, to the crew's astonishment, show

Sentrout Fishing, it was as : wildlife broadcaster and filmmaker that I came to know Hugh Falkus. His involve-ment with the Natural History Unit in Bristol arose out of his friendship with Niko Tinbergan, professor of animal behaviour at Oxford, who was studying gulls close to where Hugh had his home in

Hugh, who had formed his own wildlife film company after the second world war, saw the opportunity to make television programmes. Al-though a Nobel prizewinner and fellow of the Royal Society, Tinbergen was an amateur when it came to photography, and discovered in Hugh a skilled communicator who could craft stories out of his film.

In the early 1960s, he made The Sign Readers and The Gull Watchers. The mixture of simply-observed behaviour and lucid storylines spoken by Hugh was fresh and inspir-ing. But the film which marked the apogee of his part-nership with Tinbergen was Signals For Survival, about the behaviour and social structure in a raucous colony of lesser black-backed gulls.

The editor knew that viewers might find it difficult to watch 50 minutes on gull behaviour, but, such was the faith in Hugh's talent to craft

NE OF my treasured a structure to the storyline, memories of Hugh that the project went ahead. 1968, as part of BBC2's new series, The World About Us, it was a triumph. It was recognised as a masterly exposition on animal communic tion through the analysis of the postures and voice of one kind of bird, and won the Prix Italia and a Blue Riband Award at the American Film Festival, Hugh refused to pick up the prize because "he couldn't stand bullshit" - yet he was enormously pleased

biographical Self-Portrait Of alliteration." A Happy Man. He also became the voice of the French



Best friends ... Falkus with his dog, Prince

diver when he rewrote and narrated 40 episodes of The Undersea World Of Jacques Cousteau. A brief association with Oxford Scientific Films resulted in The Tender Trap, an internationally-acclaimed look at carnivorous plants.

To observe Hugh working on his scripts, soft pencil and rubber always with him, searching for the precise combination of words that would

His adventures crimued as prisoner-of-war, innel-digand artist. Hugh wrote an narrated everal of my Wor About Us films including oddenzee and Day Of The Zea, and in 1976 I worked clely with him on The Kills Trade, which showed pretors in action and expred the relationship betwe, killing for food, murder anwarfare. Hugh had killed andantly for food, been inved in fighting, and felt thae could pronounce with autrity on

> I filmed him agast the backcloth of hills at surrounded his home Cragg Cottage. It was a werful piece about the cattrophic nature of modern urfare. Afterwards, he said: y God Johnny, that'll give 'esomething to think about and it did. After transmissic I got a telex from the sixthoor of TV Centre instructings to wipe the tape — muclo the Hugh's amusement.

Hugh hated author and did not suffer fools at a But. despite his robust opions, he was a man of artisticiteg-rity, moral courage ancitel-

Hugh Edward Lance Falkusimer and naturalist, bontay 15, 1917; died March 30, 199

Partner in peace

the founder of Educa-tion Partners Overseas and a pioneer worker for international peace, justice and racial equality.

when many people think of slowing down, she pitched enthusiastically into a campaign to help teachers and young people to participate in reciprocal, long-lasting education partnerships and exchanges between maintained schools and colleges in the UK and their counterparts in Africa

self-interest, she challenged educationalists wherever she went in Britain, Africa and Asia to take the lessons of the inter-dependence seriously. She won countless friends

by her blend of humour, reason and passion, skilfully developing a national and in-ternational network, raising funds for teacher study visits, producing a series of high quality publications and al- auspicious following a diffi- ruary 21, 1996

ways insisting that partner-cult amalgamation with low ships must be at the heart of morale amongst pupils and the curriculum. She took par-ticular pride in setting up an autonomous Education Part with the local ministry of education and culture.

Burroughs was born in her family had lived for three generations. Three aunts. from whom she inherited her dynamism and determination, had been suffragettes. As a young woman, she was elected for county hockey and cricket teams.

Later, she developed a pas-Undaunted by the prevailing orthodoxies of economic for mechanised transport, beginning modestly with a scooter, then motor bike, followed by a succession of cars, the speedler the better. At one on the stage. Instead, she marger from May 1 1996 with trained at Goldsmith's Col- the Central Bureau for Educalege, London, as a teacher. She reached the height of her career in the 1980s as founder head of Fulham Cross

morale amongst pupils and disaffection amongst staff. But with persistence, Burroughs raised levels of expectation, improved examination results, broadened the curriculum, developed community relations — and left the school over-subscribed. A new technology wing was evidence of her commitment to equal opportunities and ber educa-

tional vision. She was dedicated to the rights of young people and her crowning achievement was to ensure that her work will continne to benefit future genera-tions. In preparation for her intended retirement, she ensured a continuing pivotal role for Education Partners Overseas by negotiating grant aid from the Overseas Devel-

tional Visits and Exchanges.

Jean Burroughs, educationist,

Alan lliffe

Heart of the grey matter

LAN ILIFFE, who has died aged 77. was a distinguished psychologist, a brilliant teacher — at Keele University — and a founder of the Society for Research into

the Society for Research into Higher Education.
By 1940, he had joined the army straight from school, and ended up on the beach at Dunkirk, Later, he won a first-class degree at Reading Uni-versity via a fast-track, ex-servicemen's educational scheme and was invited to join the

In 1951, he was asked to initiate psychology teaching at the newly-founded university college at Keele. By 1964, he had become senior tutor, with responsibility for student ad-



missions, their general wel fare and academic progress. In 1970, he moved to London to be the Civil Service Selection Board's chief psychologist. After retirement, he headed a

tion of prison governors and senior police staff.
Gregarious, an accomplished amateur actor and an enthusiastic cricketer. Iliffe loved Anthony Trollope's novels, and resembled that author's The Warden in his warm human qualities; but he also had something the warden lacked, a great sense of fun. He was twice married; to Renée, by whom he had four daughters and then to Cyn-

thia, a fellow academic.

Alan Hugh liffe, psychologist born February 24, 1919; died March 9, 1996 August 24, 1919; died March 9, 1996

Mr Howard Paul dined with

joyed two helpings. I observed that he ate sparingly up to this

Birthdays

Karen Briggs, judo cham-pion, 33; Sir Raymond Carr, Spanish historian, 77; Gervase de Peyer, clarinettist, 70: Clive Exton, scriptwriter, 56; James Ferman, secretary. British Board of Film Classifi-cation, 66; Ronald Fraser, actor, 66; Jill Gascoine, actress 59; Georgina Godley, fashion designer, 41; Joel Grey, actor, 64; Dr Roger Knight, deputy director, National Maritime Museum, 52; Derek Martin, actor, 63; Dame Avril Poole. former chief nursing officer, Department of Health, 62; Leo C Rosten, political scientist creator of Hyman Kaplan, 88; Lisa Stansfield, singer, 30; Richard Wainwright, for

Death Notices

Gardens, London NW3
PLAYLE, Mitchest Johns, a much loved hrend, son and brother, died pascelully on Wednesday, 3rd April 1998 aged 49, solow-ing a short litness. Furneral service on Fri-day 12th April 1998, 11,30am, at Enfield Cramptortum Family Sowers only, places, but donations for the North Mitchesex Hos-pital Chemotherapy Unit, Chaques made payable and sent to Fulpson and Son, 855 Filigit Road, NY BAA (018) 808 1475). High Road, N17 BAA (0181 808 1475).
THOMAS, David, April 8th 1996. Suddenly at Arrows Park Housettal aged 84 years Adored teather of Maggla, beloved tather of Huse, Victoria and deughter-ni-as Elizabeth, beloved grandisher of Magen and Joshus, Service at West Urby Methodski Church on Monday April 18th at 11.15am bellowed by cremation at Landican. No flowers please Donaltons if deelred to Stroke Association of Online's F/S, West Kirby, Wirral, Tel 0181 825 5274.

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Marriages

TO ALL IN the Guardian Advertising Department, as of Thursday 11th Apr 17am, Dave and Amende will be known a Mr and Mrs Morton.

Jackdaw



Socks did it

THANK YOU very much. Hmm, this is kind of interest ing. These don't appear to be my notes. Do you have the folder I gave you? Well, where did this stuff come from? Nobody leaves stuff like this just lying around Maybe I'll just hang on to these. OK, here we go. Good evening Mr Presi-

dent, Mrs Clinton, honoured guests, ladies and gentlemen, radio and TV scum . . . You know, I think it would be fair to say that back when the placed them all in a line-up --well, not a line-up — if we were to have speculated on

which members of the First Family would be the first to be indicted — I don't mean indicted — I mean to have received a subpoena, every-body in this room would have picked Roger. I mean: been there, done that. Well, in the past three years, Socks the cat has been in more jams than Roger. Roger has been a saint. The cat has peed on national treasures. Roger hasn't. Socks has thrown up hairbails. Roger hasn't. Socks has got his girl-friend

pregnant and — oh, no, that was Roger. And as you know, nearly every incident in the lives of the First Family has been made worse by each and every person in this room, the radio and TV correspondents . . . My point is, there is an innocent event made sinis ter by some creep in the media, Although, in some cases, the Clintons have not exactly helped themselves. Imagine if, back in 1978, Mrs

Clinton had not said to Mr .

Clinton, "Honey. Jim and

Susan are here and they've

and maybe we can make some serious money." And he said, "God, I love this Reaganomics"...One of the things it seems to me that the media ought to think about in the coming months, particu-larly in this election year. consumed by the chaos of the of the people who you cover, the way you cover them, and your treatment of them as individuals.

For, if nothing else, they are all good and decent people who, for whatever reasons, have chosen to devote the bulk of their adult lives to public service. People who possess a passion for ideas and ideals to which they have committed extraordinary energy. It is almost always lirrel evant and short-sighted to seize only on the unfortunate human imperfections of people who, frankly, have demonstrated an often puz-zling willingness to endure great sacrifice both personally and professionally at what they see as a noble sumgood. More often than not, that is exactly the case.

You folks focus on each mis-step, every mis-spoke word, each testy outbursto they not deserve some dege of respect, to be treated wi the dignity that at least acknowledges the mission of truism they believe they an conducting? Shouldn't wel willing to give them some benefit of the doubt?

I don't think so. Excerpts from a speech given by US radio talkshow host De Imus to the US Radio and Tel

Look up

ers have grown up in the con-duction belief was prefigtext of the myth of extrater-restrial visitation. Where are from the 17th century to they differ from the rest of us the present. And don't let's is that they take that myth for tave any nonsense about reality, whereas you and I hese authors unwittingly utrecognise it as myth and nothing more. Of all the myths we have created, that of visitation by other-worldly beings is the oldest and most enduring. Without divine be-

heavens, most religious be-lief-systems would lack the authority for their teachings and without less kindly enti ties rising from the depths below, they would lack a bogeyman to scare us into ac-

cepting those teachings. The sub-myth of alien abduction, whether seen as benign or malevolent, is a natural development of the basic myth . . . it is a magnificent testimony to humanity's inventive powers. If the ab-duction myth has taken so oision Correspondents annual duction myth has taken so dinner, reprinted in the New firm a hold, it is because it is York Observer. The audiency rich in elements to which we included the Clintons. can profoundly respond. can profoundly respond.

Invention, however, it manifestly is. Most of TODAY'S abduction believ- showing how the current abering deep spiritual truths; nese were hard-headed prossional writers, who knew

Meurger's L'enlèvement extraterrestre de la fiction à la royance in the deeply-sceptics

Down the hatch

MR HOWARD PAUL, the well-known entertainer, has just brought out a little book, entitled Dinners With Celebrities, in which musicians play no inconsiderable part. When



No UFO . . . Fortean Times

the late Prince Napoleon, Rossini was of the party, and the exploits of the Swan of Pesaro as a trencherman are most following passage: "The spa-ghetti was the finest I ever remember to have tasted, and small wonder that Rossini en-

course, refusing the tournedos, passing the poulet, and picking lightly the breast of a woodcock. He was evidently reserving his grand coup for the Italian dish, which he de-molished with gusto. The old melodist never forgot his early taste, and macaroni, polenta, ravioli, spaghetti, and vermicelli were invariably to be found on the table of his villa at Passy." In another chapter we glean the momentous information that Rossini — in his later years, at any rate rarely ate any breakfast. As for Wagner, he dispatched his meals with the velocity of a Flying Dutchman: "I observed that he ate exceedingly fast. It was like posting letters. He placed his food in his mouth, and down it went while h

talked. If he had been reared in the United States of America he could not have plied his knife and fork with greater clarity." The Musical Times looks back to its edition of April,

headline

I HAD been using Natural Ice Medicated Lip Balm. After a few months of social lip-balming, I found that my in-discriminate use of Natural Ice was not enough. I found Ice was not enough. I found that I could get more bang for my buck by using Menthola-tum directly. On the lips, under the nostrils, then eventually ... yes ... up the nose. More up balm confessions from Lip Balm Anonymous, on the Internet (http://users.gol-.com/LipBalmA/)

Jackdaw wants your jewels. Email jackdaw@guardian-.co.uk; fax 0171-713 4366; Jackdaw, The Guardian, 119 Farringdon Road, London EC1R 3ER.

Dan Glaister

ميكذا من الاجل

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Finance Guardian

Taxpayers face £50m bill

High Court move threatens TECs the High Court finds they are charities they will be eligible for similiantificon pound tax refunds. The TECs, which administrately all other TEC anto matically would fall into the showt are funding for training, were a showt are for reforms during the Thatefers years, when responsibility for provision of its head and could bring about the biggest changes in the TECs in their six-year history. AXPAYERS could end up paying an estimated £50 million back to the Government's training system on its head and could bring about the biggest changes in the TECs in their six-year history. The case has aroused fears of an exodus by business and Enterprise Councils if the papel a favour of granting the TECs in the training was taken away from the public motion and banded to business leaders acting as directors of the councils. In figure Revenue Special their past activities to make clear that the new status would be retrospective, forcing them to review all their past activities to make charitable status in a complex charitable status in a complex that it is

timated £50 munon back to the Government's Training and Enterprise Councils if the bland Revenue loses an inclusion that the bland Revenue loses are the bland Revenue loses and the bland Revenue loses and the bland Revenue loses are the bland Revenue loses and the bland Revenue loses are the bland Revenue loses and the bland Revenue loses are the bland Revenue loses and the bland Revenue loses are the bland Revenue loses are the bland Revenue loses and the bland Revenue loses and the bland Revenue loses and the bland Revenue loses are the bland Revenue loses and the bland Revenue loses are the bland Revenue loses and the bland Revenue loses are the bland Revenue loses and the bland Revenue loses are the bland Revenue los inland Revenue loses an in-tense legal battle which more onerous personal reaches the High Court next | liabilities.

Scots

enjoy

quality

Serah Ryle and Tony Heath

PEOPLE in Scotland en-joy the best quality of life in Britain, accord-ing to a survey published today which shows that the

cost of living across the country is rising at its slow-

The cheapest place to live in Britain during the last 12 months was Merthyr Tydill in south Wales, says

the research group, Reward. A traditional fam-

ily of four in this town of 59,000 would have to earn

£15,669 to maintain its life-

for a family in Greater

Merthyr suffers from a

down-at-heel image born of

decades of economic hardship as pits closed and un-employment soured. At 12 per cent, joblessness is still higher than in Greater Lon-

don but Merthyr has the air

of a town on the up. Unnsu-

ally it managed to hang on to its rail link with Cardiff

and a growing number of commuters make the 20-mile trip daily. Earlier this

est rate for three years.

of life

best

month.

The case — which has only rolves around whether TECs The are businesses or charities. If TECs

decision involving a TEC in Oldheim. They agreed that the TEC was aligible for £180,000 tax regards for the years 1990

charitable status.

The Revenue is taking the case so sarlously that it is thought ready to appeal to the House of Lords if it loss nant month's courtroom battle.

Although a change to charitable status early being the The country's other 80 table status could bring tax IECs have been alerted about concessions as well as rate

When TECs were created in

when TECs were created in the late 1980s, the Government received legal advice that the councils were not and could never be charities. It was able to persuade business people to join TEC boards on the basis that their lightliften wereld by lightly the lightliften wereld by lightly the lightly the property of the lightly the second or the late of the lightly the second or lightly the lightly the second or lightly the lightly the second or lightly the lightly liabilities would be limited by guarantee, as with commer-

cial companies.

The fear is that many of the country's 800 TEC director could be forced to pull out if they believe the personal risks to be too great. One source said: "This could

relief and exemption from VAT, the change is likely to bring far more damaging effects, not least because of the onerous liabilities on directors of TECs.

When TECs were greated in acted in a way that would be a breach of charitable trust. "TECs should not use charitable funds for non-charitable

> the note. The Inland Revenue last night said that it was pursuing the case. A spokeswoman said: "We don't agree with the Special Commissioners' findings. We believe they were

purposes, and if this occurs, directors could be personally

liable for such actions," says

wrong in law."

The Department for Education and Employment said

Notebook

Enterprise and charity don't mix



Edited by Patrick Donovan

HE Oldham Training and Enterprise Council can have had no idea what a can of worms it was opening when it hit on the apparently ingenious idea of applying for charitable status. If such a change is permitted at next month's court hear-ing, it will yield a £180,000 windfall. And the case could pave the wave for similar rebates, worth up to £50 million, throughout the TEC

This may appear to hold out the prospect of an investment bonanza for all enterprise councils, but the reality is that if this test case results in the transformation of TECs into charities it will have a hugely damaging effect on business training throughout

Firstly, the liabilities of charity directors are far more operous than those of their counterparts in a conventional business.

This will make it far harder for TECs to recruit and retain they need to make such organisations a success. Secondly, the legal uncertainty the process will cause is going to jeopardise moves to merge TECs with the Chambers of Commerce

movement. A merger would greatly strengthen and consolidate

ment and has the enthusiastic support of the business Thirdly there is the wider stion of why the taxpaye

should provide any rebate for the TECs. This was after all one of the flagships of Thatcherite

enterprise, drawn up as a fed-eration of self-supporting organisations to administer more than £1.2 billion worth of government training funds year. Oldham should drop this

action while it still has the

Go-go greenback

"HE dollar continued its seemingly unstoppable rise yesterday, breaching (albeit briefly) the benchmark 1.50 level against the German mark for the first

The greenback is still bene-fiting from the conviction the way back up. The market is taking its cue from last US payroll figures, which showed that the economy was growing faster than expected. Hence the feeling that there

is now real scope for modest increases in the cost of borrowed money. That outlook is likely to be further sustained by economic statistics over the next couple of weeks. Conversely, the mark con-tinues to suffer from interest rate blues, with the market firmly convinced that a fur-ther cut could come as early as next week's key Bundes bank meeting.

Not even yesterday's mar-ginally encouraging employ-ment figures were enough to shake the market's percep-tion that the German econo-my is still bumping along the

sterling, which firmed a quar-ter of a plennig against the mark but lost ground against the dollar.
On fundamentals, the

relationship between the US and German currencies looks way out of kilter. But this is the never-never world of cur-rency dealing. With heated expectations of interest rate changes building up, the greenback could yet have fur-ther to go.

Super swizz

edifying about politi-cians and business folk trying to win votes or com-mercial advantage by promis-ing to link schools to the information superhighway.

Tony Blair started the ball

rolling at last year's Labour Party conference, with the dramatic announcement of a ieal with British Telecom an initiative which proved as low in content as it was high

The cable companies, who are relying on the Tories to protect their local monopolies, riposted by saying that they were already linking schools to their networks for

Now the Tories are in talks with the media magnate Rupert Murdoch about the possibility of delivering superhighway services to schools viz satellite. His News Corporation is prepared to launch a special satellite and install dishes on every school roof.

In return, it is said, Mr Murdoch, wants the Govern-ment to support his plans for digital satellite technology.

It all amounts to building a branchline to nowhere. Linking schools to the superhighway may earn kudos for poll-ticians and business people, but it is pointless unless someone comes up with funds to provide the hardware and train teachers bow to use H.

So far no one is committed to providing this key part of the jigsaw. Schools will need personal computers, internal fibre optic networks, servers and electronic overhead projectors if they are to turn the superhighway into a positive

aid to teaching. The National Consumer Council, which today calls for measures to ensure that superhighway, stresses the importance of training for all

potential users.
It warns that without such computer links, many people will be excluded from the information society and fail to

share in its benefits.
Political parties deserve to win credit — and votes — only when they back up vote winning platitudes with the necessary hard cash.

economy." John Mooks, general secretary of the TUC, said that while some top directors might feel good about the state of the economy, they were badly out of touch with the country as a whole. The booklet is thought unlikely to prompt a response The booklet, backed by a dozen businessmen including thorities are set to block or demand changes to the proposed £480 million port or are agnostic to the idea of a Blair government. Business backers of the quotes overseas business leaders such as Jan Timmer, Lord Hanson; Sir David Lee the chairman of GKN; and the merger of Lonrho's platinum interests with those of South matering trice in South Af-rica, which opposes the deal. It is rumoured that President Nelson Mandels is personally opposed to the deal, along British Airways' boss, Sir Colin Marshall, refrains from explicit endorsement of the likely to prompt a response similar to that of 1992 when Lord Hollick, the socialist Labour Party were dismissive African mining group Gencor, according to sources in onservative Party. But its publication, master chief of MAI/United News.

The Commission's competi-tion officials, which have

prestine

merger, which would create the world's biggest platinum producer, Gencor and Lonrho

nies, and by South Africa's competition authorities, the Brussels competition authorities have taken a tougher line. In taking evidence, the Commission has heard repre-sentations from various groups, including the native Mafeking tribe in South Afwith certain Lonrho staff based in South Africa who, it is claimed, have been pre-vented from speaking to the Commission by Lonrho's

in day-to-day expenditure to an annual rate of 2.1 per

has campaigned vigorously against the marger since it was announced in November. Speaking from the south of France, he said last night " am not surprised at this news

— I cannot believe the Commission would allow the merger to go ahead. If it has been blocked, it is very good news for Lourbo sharehold-

Although the Commission both groups already hold a has only rarely blocked mergers, in-depth investigation such as the one into this deal often lead the Commission to demand changes in the terms.

obscure company in Minne-sota that lends money to buy mobile homes. Lawrence Cross carne \$65.6 million (£48.4 million) in 1995 thanks to a bo-nus of \$59.2 million on top

The honuses reflect

strong peformance at Founded by Mr Cross in 1975, the company saw profits jump 40 per cent last year to \$254 million. Green Tree's market capitalisation was \$3.8 billion at the end of 1996, up from \$330 million just five years before.

Green Tree is planning a contending that it falled to new incentive plan for its give him his rightful share chairman for 1997 and of the profits of blockbuster

Shareholders will be Beauty and the asked to approve the new the Lion King.

Scheme, devised with the Mr Katzenbe

May 15. If the proposed plan had been operating. Mr Cross's bonus would have been dramatically lower in 1995, at \$5.2 mil-

come a \$250 millon bone of contention between Disney and its former film studio head, Jeffrey Katzenberg, who left Disney in 1994. Mr Katzenberg bas filed a

lawsuit seeking at least leaner in future years. that amount from Disney, films including Aladdin, Beauty and the Beast, and

with director Steven Spiel-berg and record mogul David Geffen, claims that a provision in his contract entitles him to 2 per cent of Disney's profits from products put into production subsequent to the end of his

prices — down to £61,375 for a three-bed semi from £67,700 in 1990 — and the

fall in the mortgage rate in the last year took housing costs down by 4.6 per cent

Andrew Smith, shadow chief secretary to the Trea-sury, said: "The Conserva-tives can produce as many

glossy documents as they like ... but it will not make people

garnered left-wing industrial

support for a response to the

Times saying the country "desperately needed" a

Mr Katzenberg asserts that Disney will make need the permission of the \$12.5 billion from the many High Court to issue writs movies, television shows and other deals he made during his 10 years at the Baring Brothers, because company.

Underlying the legal dispute is the personal ani-mosity between Mr Katzenberg and his former friend Mr Eisner, now said to de-sple each other despite a well publicised attempt to bury the hatchet last year.

Barings bondholders seek court's permission to sue

BONDHOLDERS who last year lost \$100 million when merchant bank Barings collapsed applied to the High Court yesterday for permission to sue over their losses. In the firing line are three of the City's top broking houses — Cazenove, Hoare Govett, and BZW — who Also being targeted are the 15 directors, including the nonexecutives, of Barings at the time of its collapse.
The legal action is being

taken by the Barings 9.25 per cent Perpetual Noteholders Action Group (BNAG), which represents several hundred investors. The bondholders against Barings plc and Bi-shopscourt Ltd, the former

both are in administration. But a BNAG spokesman warned that if the High Court refused permission the action group would probably go ahead and issue writs against

the other parties.

clude Peter Baring, former chairman of the bank; his deputy Andrew Tuckey, John Bolsover, chairman and chief executive of Baring Assets Management; and Peter Nor-ris, chief excecutive of Barings investment hank.
The Securities and Futures

Authority announced last month it would be taking action against "a number of persons" over the bank's colthose facing action, but they are believed to include several former Barings directors. BNAG, which is not expect-ing to issue any writs before

May, said the legal action related to the terms on which the £100 million-worth of prior to Barings collapse.

The proceedings allege a combination of omissions and

ments in the listing particulars," it said. Barings crashed after rogue

trader Nick Leeson, now in prison in Singapore, lost nearly £900 million on futures bank was taken over by Dutch financial conglomerate The former directors whom ING, which refused to com-BNAG has in its sights in-pensate the bondholders.

cent, compared with 5.3 per cent at the last count in year the Korean Halla. group announced a £17 million fork-lift truck factory August, Reward says. But the cost of feeding the aver- Greater London faced liv- of life, putting Scotland at living will be purely to do age family across the UK ing costs 18 per cent above the top of the league and with bousing costs because which will initially provide £430m Lonrho merger deal

lan King in London and Julie Wolf in Brussels

U COMPETITION 211

until May 7 to wave through or block the merger, are understood to have been advised by a merger "task head office in London. force" to oppose the deal.

Last night, a Lonrho of the proposed merger is spokesman in London said it chairman Tiny Rowland, who chairman Tiny Rowland, who

gest the Commission would oppose the merger. He said: Like the Monopolies Commission, the EU doesn't give interim reports, and so we won't know until the day it Under the terms of the

would obtain joint control of ers." Impala platinum, in which substantial stake.

But although the merger has been approved by the shareholders of both compa-

TOURIST RATES - BANK SELLS Australia 1.8550 France 7.51 ustria 15.45 elolum 45.40 Belgium 45.40 Canada 2.0150

italy 2,350 Marta 0.54 Netherlands 2,4750 New Zentand 2,17 New Zealand 2.17 Norway 9.52 Portugal 2270 Saudi Arabia 3.57 Sudi Arabia 3.57

Singapore 2.09 South Atrica 5.14 Spein 185.00 Sweden 10.10

of his fairly modest \$433,508 salary. The pay-ment dwarfed the \$14 mil-lion beaus earned by Disney chairman Michael . Last year's peckage for

EC could block Bell and bosses toll Tory virtues who says the snapshots of | will draw their own conclu-Britain contained in the sions for 1996/97."

Bargain prices . . . Merthyr Tydfil shoppers live in the UK's cheapest town

EARS that the Labour party is successfully de-molishing its traditional demonology among business leaders yesterday prompted a group of industrialists to splash out \$100,000 on a bro-chure extelling the virtues of policies.

year, fell by 0.1 per cent.
National averages hid
some big regional variations. A family living in
Greater London faced liv-

mer public relations guru for Margaret Thatcher — carries a covering letter from the Prime Minister, John Major,

Hark Tran in New York

THE most richly rewarded executive in America last year did not

come from Disney or any of

the high-flying technology companies — but from Green Tree Financial, an

successful and modern economy which is forging ahead". The move is a clear indication that elements of the business community are alarmed at the headway Labour has been making in the tradi-tional Conservative heart-lands of the City and commerce, where many senior executives now either sup-

glossy brochure "build up a consistent picture of a strong,

Nationwide, cheaper rose by 5.6 per cent. This mortgages offered by lenders battling for market share helped slow the rise in day-to-day expenditure by the rebates in electricity in day-to-day expenditure bills at the start of this the national average. But the West Midlands at the bottom. Quality of life was negative compared to the national average in every bills at the start of this the national norm.

Result in the west Midlands at the bottom. Quality of life was negative compared to the national average in every region except Scotland, the part of the twin pressures of house parties of the start of this bills at the start of this the national average. But the West Midlands at the bottom. Quality of life was negative compared to the national average in every region except Scotland, the parties of the start of the start of the national norm.

Reward used the differ-

come to grade the UK

region by region for quality of life, putting Scotland at

itam, urged support for the Conservatives at the General Election in a letter to the of the propaganda effort. Christopher Haskins, chair-man of Northern Foods, said: "There was a similar effort four years ago, which may have been successful at the time, but people will remem-

Six Tim Bell last night de-nied that the booklet — which

North and Greater London.

Reward spokesman Steve

rate of growth of the cost of living will be purely to do

Mr Haskins was referring

to an initiative in March 1992

when 40 directors led by Dixons' Sir Stanley Kalms (a supporter of the latest cam-paign) and Lord Sheppard,

then head of Grand Metropol-

the president of Philips, and opinion formers such as the Wall Street Journal — was calling for people to vote Conservative. Rather, the state-

ments - some of which ap-pear at odds with recent external reports on the UK economy — should be seen as ements of the Govern-

Obscure newcomer joins America's corporate pay caravan 1994, his total earnings help of an outside compen-came to \$28.5 million, and sation consultant, at a \$13.6 million the year beginning on

Meanwhile, pay has be-

Red Rose **Economics**

The markets will always be nervous of Labour's agenda, but these days the City admits to liking what it hears. PATRICK DONOVAN writes



On the stump . . . Shadow chancellor Gordon Brown in Tamworth with Brian today's Staffordshire

Darlings of the dealers?

markets traditionally tend to ignore a general election until at least three months before the event.

Whatever the political variables, however, an analysis of each of the eight elections since 1986 suggests that the City responds in three ways to a change of government.

If the Tories win, markets rise — particularly if, as in 1992, the victory is unexpected. On the other hand, markets tend to fall if a

Labour victory is anticipated, All predictable stuff. The interesting part, how-

no consistent pattern of per-formance if Labour wins. For the City, the uncer-tainty this time is further compounded by the extent to which Labour is perceived to have changed its spots.

Labour has been intensively

courting the financial mar-kets. And to a large extent the City likes what it hears. The City will always be nervous about the macroeconomic implications of a Labour takeover. Issues such as the probability of tighter regulation over utilities or the imposition of a minimum wage aiready hang over share ever, according to an investi-gation by the investment the public affairs division of bank Flemings about how the Charles Barker public Specific proposals are few.

vatives have the most effective economic policies". regarding the regulation of the financial markets, the

City is increasingly in sympa-

thy with Lebour policies.

Labour has sensibly been keeping much of its powder dry. However Alistair Darling and other front-bench spokes men have made no secret of their determination to shake up City regulation. As Labour says in its document, A new Economic Future for Britain: "There is an inceasing con-sensus that the regulatory system is not working and that it needs to be reformed."

Labour wants to change the approach and structure of

regulation, but says any changes will build on the modifications made since implementation of the Financial Services Act. Opposition spokesmen say: "It is essential that any changes recognise diversity of the financial services industry and

One of the key planks of the Opposition's policy is to phase out the current system of City "self-regulation" and give the Securities and Investment Board a central role in policing the markets. Within this system, Labour advocates separating regulation

T IS testimony to the markets respond to a change much-criticised "short of government, is that there is more than seven out of 10 City themes appear non-ideological respondents believe "Conserting and pragmatic."

The doctrine of caveat six of the wholesale and retail sition of British companies by the wholesale and the wholesale emptor has more strength when corporate bodies deal with each other. Cavest emptor has less strength when an institution deals with a man or woman wanting to buy a life policy.

Other proposals involve the possibility of transferring the supervisory role of the Bank of England to a Banking Com-

On other issues, such as the vetting of takeover bids. Labour is likely to take a tougher stance, applying tougher "public interest" cri-teria. One leading City house suggested yesterday that poli-cies are likely to include tighter restrictions on acqui-

ployment guarantees" on any company being taken over.

Whatever the reality be-hind Labour's policies, the uncertainty will continue to spook the equity market in the run-up to the election. As Flemings' research department says: "Labour are going to make some pretty big changes. What this means for the stock market is that many of the long-term building blocks that underlie the structure of the market and which have led to the relative suc-cess and failure of many of the stocks within it are now liable to change.'

Granada set to meet profit pledge with price rises

RANADA, the hotel, television and leisure group, said yesterday that it planned to raise prices at its hotels and roadside restaurants, acquired as part of Jananas. uary's £3.9 billion takeover of

In a trading statement, Gra-nada also said more job cuts at Forte's businesses were

Imminent.

The company, which is "increasingly confident" of improving Forte profits by the \$100 million it promised during the bid, said it had almost an adventure on the same proving the bid said it had almost a same proving the bid said it had almost a said that a same proving the bid said it had almost a said that a said tha ready raised room rates at Travelodge, and was planning further increases soon.

In particular, Granada is preparing to raise overnight rates at its London hotels. where chief executive Charles Allen said business was

'booming". Meanwhile, Mr Allen disclosed that Granada intended to sell its stakes in the Savoy, Alpha Airports and the Wel come Break motorway services chain — all acquired as part of the Forte takeover — by the end of its financial

year in September He said relations were "good" with the Wontner fam-ily, which owns the controlling stake in the Savoy, and said Granada was unlikely to sell the stake to a buyer which did not meet with the

nada was under no pressure to complete the sale of other former Forte assets, including the group's Meridien and Ex-clusive hotel chains, which are expected to raise up to 22

He added: "Time is not an issue — increasing value is, and we have very detailed profits improvement plans in place. The assets were very significantly under-ex-ploited, and we need to know their true value before

Mr Allen said Granada was still hopeful of selling the Meridien and Exclusive chains to single buyers, with a sales document due out at

V in Paris, the Ritz in Madrid and London's Grosvenor House — would be sold off

individually.
Rumours have been circulating for some time of interest in the Meridien and Exclusive chains from several international hoteliers, in-cluding Marriott, Sheraton and French group Accor. However, Mr Allen said it

was unlikely that special treatment would be given to any bid for the chains from Sir Rocco Forte, Forte's for-

depend on who comes up with the best bid." He said Granada had yet to finalise a severance package with Str Rocco, who is still a member of both the Forte and Savoy boards, and who is said

to be in line for a pay-off of several hundred thousand pounds. The company has already completed negotiations with the other Forte board mem-

bers, including Sir Rocco's sister Olga Polizzi, and details are expected to be published later in the year.

In addition, more job losses are likely over the next few weeks at the old Forte head quarters at London's High

Holborn, where Mr Allen said more than 700 staff had been employed, and where Gra-nada had identified costs of ground £72 million. More than 100 jobs have al-

ready been cut at the office and although Mr Allen would not say how many more could go, it is thought the final fig-ure will more than double. On the television side, Mr Allen said Granada would be

able to buy ITV rival Yorkahire Tyne-Tees, in which it has a 25 per cent stake, under its current banking arrangements.

But he refused to rule out a possible demerger in the future of Granada's television activities.

"You never say never, but in practice, demerger is some-thing that isn't on the agenda, and talk of it is very unsettling for our managers," Mr

Granada shares closed However, he considered it Granada shares closed was possible some "trophy assets" — including the George statement.

*A1487-64 \$

Underside

Dan Atkinson

ORDON Brown's So it was with a sense of doubts about the setting free of the Bank of England may have less to do with Crazy Eddie's burgers. "The meat used in Three Pints than with an is 100 per cent pure (prime) alarming dialogue recently beef," it declared. Close between GB and a deeply senior Bank bod. Labour, Mr Brown declared. was very worried at the lack of investment in the national economy. Very worried indeed. Bank-person was reassuring. The figures, he explained, were not so bad once you took out

Yes? Oh, and small business. Uh-huh? And the privatised utilities. Ye-es? Oh, and manufacturing. Once these were removed (leaveless were removed (leaveless). ing, presumably, such ecomic motors as Nouvelle Indienne restaurants and virtual-reality sex parlours), the figures, explained our man, weren't bad at all. A stunned GB went off for an urgent rethink of Labour's es-pousal of an independent tentral bank.

X TALES (1): Mean-while, wiser inves-tors will be bolding fire on ordering those os-trich shares that are the hot tip to replace holdings in Britain's manky old madness-ridden beef industry. John Roe, welfare cam-paigner on behalf of the head-burying bird, warns that two cases of BSE-type infection have been detected in ostriches kept at a zoo in Germany. Oh, and ostriches are prone also to who is (a) a touch right TB and rickets. Other than wing and (b) not a woman.

CLOUD on the horizon for lucky Clive Thompson, the Rento-kil chief who cleared a handy £4 million from share options last year. Come the emotional day when he hangs up his bugslaving spray for the last time. Clive faces the same annual ordeal as all other of proving to the company he is still alive, either by producing a doctor's note to that effect or by visiting the local nick and obtaining signed verification from a constable. Still, the fight against pension fraud comes first, right Clive?

days before Burger King and Ronald Mc-Donald and Wendy, good old Wimpy kept us all alive with super-bender brunches and similar fare. with

the famous Wimpy burger readers may note the qualification: the meat is 100 per cent pure, not the burger. THE law of mote and

beam appears to have taken its toll of Peter Robinson, the ex-Woolwich chief currently battling al-legations of "irregularities" in his business ex-penses. Back in 1988. Mr R. was a Woolwich area manager; one of his mortgage salesmen was discovered to have turned a blind eye to a touch of salary-puffing on the part of a homeloan applicant. The salesman was hauled up before Mr Robinson and dismissed with the words: "Honesty is the key word in this organisation. Anyone who doesn't have it is not welcome." No, quite.

OPES that the appointment of some women to the Chancellor's Wise Men panel would lead to less hawkish-ness were doused by the first report of the reconsti-tuted group, released this week. With prices spiral-ling out of control — well, growing at 2.7 per cent — the report declares, in well-hard tones, NO to any more interest-rate cuts. Just one panellist promoted the kinder, gentler way, a cer-tain Professor Minford, Don't ever change. Prof (es pecially not your sex).



Jobs at risk in Swiss merger talks

THOUSANDS of City jobs hang in the balance today with UBS, the Swiss bank, set to announce whether to give its backing to a merger with a rival. Credit Suisse.

Part of the rationale for the deal would be the enormous savings that could be made by swingeing job cuts in both Switzerland and the Square Mile. In the City the most vulnerable area is perceived to be the banks' research divisions, where

there is overlap between the two sets of analysts.

But cold water was being poured on the prospect of a merger yesterday as senior banking sources stressed the regulatory hurdles and political opposition it would face in Switzerland. In their domestic base the combined banks would control some 50 per cent of the retail market and the Swiss Cartel Commission would take an Interest. — Sarah Whitebloom

Bristol & West takeover fever

SPECULATION that Bristol & West's savers and borrowers could soon be in line for big bonuses reached fever pitch yesterday when Britain's ninth biggest building society confirmed that it had discussed possible takeovers with the regulator, the Building Societies Commission.

Allied Irish Banks emerged as the favourite in City circles to take over Bristol & West. Last week the society emphatically denied rumours of a deal with National Australia Bank, but refused to rule out a bid by Allied Irish, which has openly sought a link with a UK building society for many years.

Bank of Ireland and BAT industries, which owns Allied Dunbar and Eagle Stur, are also in the frame. — Teresa Hunter

Water share sale raises £77m THE Government sold most of its remaining holdings in the

privatised water companies yesterday, raising £77 million for the Treasury. The brokers SBC Warburg bought the shares in a competitive auction organised by Rothschild merchant bank, and will sell them on to institutional investors.

This is the second big government-related "bought deal" undertaken by Warburg recently. Last year the group made profits of about £5 million after wurchasing the remaining £513 million of

about $\mathfrak{L}\overline{\mathfrak{D}}$ million after purchasing the remaining $\mathfrak{L}\mathfrak{D}\mathfrak{D}$ million of state-owned shares in BP. Yesterday's deal involved shares in Hyder (Welsh) Water, Anglian Water, Southern Water, Yorkshire Water, Thames Water, United Utilities and Yorkshire Water. Warburg said it would use the shares for "market-making purposes". No deadline had been set for their disposal.

The Government will retain its holding in Wessex, Severn Trent and South West Water because of takeover bid negotiations involving the three. — Lisa Buckingham

Rover dealers face axe THE Rover car company is to cut up to 25 per cent of its 511-strong

lealer network in line with plans to move its brand upmarket. The cull, to take place over the next two years, comes as Rover seeks to reposition its cars at the premium end of the market.

The company also envisages a fall in UK sales, from a 12 per cent market share to about 9 per cent. Owned by BMW, Rover wants to replace its traditional dependence on the home market with greater exports and plans a push into more than 30 new markets abroad this year alone. — Chris Barrie

Smurfit profits up 32pc

IRISH paper and packaging group Jefferson Smurfit unveiled a 32 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to IRE420 million (£395 million) yesterday but warned the paper market was weak, with oversupply forcing prices down. Deputy chairman Dermot Smurfit said it was not clear how much further the market, which started to deteriorate last year, would decline. - Pauline Springett.

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Lamby pushes for Beefy

Paul Weaver reports on an old pal's act proposing lan Botham as England supremo

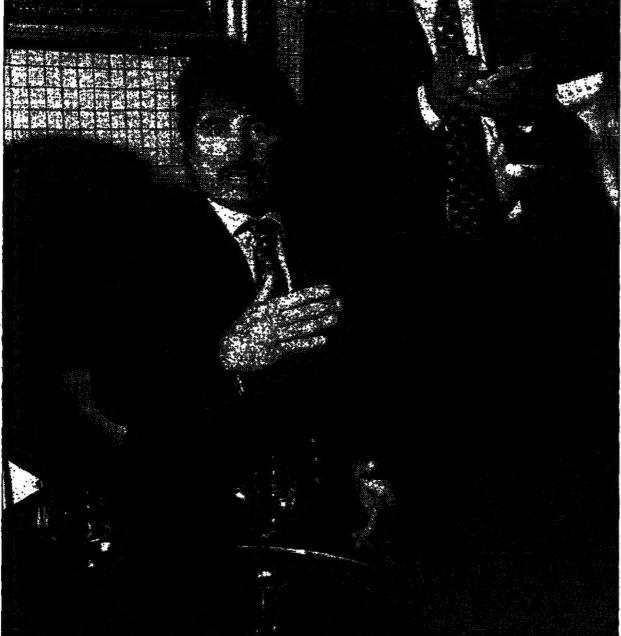
N OPINION poll last Raster weekend informed us that half the people of Britain believed in the resurrection. Now England cricketers, not to be outdone by theologians or anyone else in this season of blooming daffodils and blossoming Wisdens, have entered the revival debate and their message is clear: Ian Botham must return. Botham must return.

Yesterday the Surrey pair of Alec Stewart and Graham Thorpe came out in support of Botham's confroversial bid to become a Test selector (Stewart, whose best years may be behind him and who is certainly no longer an automatic Test choice, may have done himself no favours). Then, at lunchtime, Allan

Lamb went one stage fur-ther. "Botham for Supremo" was his message. There is nothing equivocal about Lamb. Asking him a question is rather like bowling him a half-volley it comes pinging back over your head with the hard, harsh tones of Lange-

baanweg, Cape Province.
"One man should be in charge and he should pick the selectors. Ian Botham wants to do it so I would tell him to go and sort it

"We have to take the buil by the horns. The modern game has changed and we can't be stubborn and blinkered about it. The game is leaping away from us. The situation we have got into is farcical. Of those players nominated as selectors my choice would be Graham Gooch and Beefy. But Illy has stood down as supremo and I think Beefy could in county cricket, he on a number of accusations replace him, though he replied: "The airuation he made against players would have to give up the looks very dismal. I would from that country media work."



Quick delivery . . . Allan Lamb gives the press the benefit of his wisdom in London yesterday

The 41-year-old Lamb was speaking in a swish Knightsbridge hotel where he and Robin Smith had an-nounced a joint testimonial match at Highelere Castle near Newborn on July 18 near Newbury on July 16, when an England side will face a World XI featuring Aravinda de Silva, Anil Kumble, Paul Adams, Shaun Pollock, Dennis Lil lee and Malcolm Marshall. It could be the only cricket Lamb gets this sum-mer. When asked about his plans to play for Northamp-tonshire this season, in what would be his last year

with the TCCB but the odds are against it."

Lamb would need to sign: a contract with the Test and County Cricket Board in order to play on. But then the board could prevent him publishing his lucra-tive and controversial autobiography. The book is not due out until September but newspaper serialisation will come before that — just in time to cause the board maximum embarrassment. Pakistan will be touring England during the second half of the summer and Lamb is expected to enlarge

Yesterday, however, he narvon is dominated by cewanted to talk about dars of Lebanon and English players and he sounded a little like a supremo himself. "We have to get rid of the older players and cut playing staffs down to 16. Some players should be told their time is up — the dead wood who are blocking the system." The main reason older players block the system, of

Brian McMillan's late rejection, have signed the Anstralia fast bowler Brendon conrse, is to get a benefit, usually awarded after 10 Julian. The Western Australia left armer replaces Wagar Younis, who will be touring with Pakistan, as overseas player. Julian made his Test debut against years' service as a capped player (Lamb had a reported £184,000 in 1988). The only reason dead wood hangs around after that is England at Old Trafford in in the hope of a testimonial Highclere Castle, the home of Lord and Lady Car-1993, the first of seven appearances for his country.

Rowing

Steve

STEVE REDGRAVE, who will be attempting to win an unprecedented fourth successive Olympic rowing gold medal in Atlanta. confirmed yesterday that he plans to retire after the

The 34-year-old carsman who has also won six world titles, said: "I have been rac-ing now for the last 20 years ing now for the last 20 years and I can't see myself doing another four years' training.
"I am training hard for Atlanta to go the way we want it to go. Then I would be very happy to walk away from the sport — certainly from the competitive side."

Matthew Pinsent, with whom Redgrave defends the coxless pairs title they won in Barcelona, says he plans to

Barcelona, says he plans to carry on competing. The 25-year-old said: "For both of us. the bottom line is that Atlanta is going to be a big change in our lives. We are both pretty convinced we will be heading in different directions.

"I'm about as sure that I want to carry on as Steve is sure that he wants to retire. It would then be a question of whether I carried on rowing in pairs or in fours. It be-comes a maze of decisions." Redgrave, however, did quality his decision to quit.
"If I win another gold medal and I am standing there on the rostrum with people asking if I am going to ratire, I will probably say no," he said. "But certainly the way I am thinking at the moment, this will be my last appearance. I have no real plans about what I will do. I will probably go into coaching at some stage, but not straight

adorned by paintings by Gainsborough, Reynolds and Van Dyck. The days · Both men say their preparawhen a beneficiary begged around the boundary with tions for Atlanta are going well. Redgrave has switched to stroke and Pinsent to the bow and Pinsent said: "We are both comfortable with it seem long gone.

Surrey, let down by the South Africa all-rounder and enjoying the change. None of us, including our coach, knows whether we are going to change back, if at

> The pair were speaking at the launch of a Barclaycard Visa scheme to donate £500,000 to the British Olym-pic Association and British Paralympic Association for training camps, coaches and equipment.

Racing

One last Sham looks heave for real thing for Guineas

OSRA SHAM, hot favourite for the 1,000 Guineas, is well on target for her sea-sonal debut next week after being put through her paces on the Newmarket gallops yesterday.
Unbeaten in two starts last

year, the Henry Cecil-trained filly looked in fine shape in a work-out with Storm Trooper

work-out with Storm Trooper and Allez Royale.

"We're delighted with her," said owner Wafic Said's rac-ing manager Tim Bulwer-Long, "She will run in the Fred Darling Stakes at New-bury on Friday week with Pat Eddery aboard."

Beers Shem is now \$4.

Bosra Sham is now 6-4, from 7-4, for the Guineas with Ladbrokes following further backing yesterday. William Hill offer 7-4.

Viking Flagship is the star turn on Cheltenham's penultimate jumping fixture of the season today, but he is op-posed by only Travado and Gales Cavalier in the Mira Rada Silver Tropby Chase. There are few more genu-ine or talented chasers in

training than Viking Flagship but not even his exceptional enthusiasm could contain the run of Klairon Davis, who deprived him of a hat-trick of Two Mile Chase champion-ships at the Festival meeting last month.

met again at Aintree over an extra half-mile, Viking Flagship got his revenge in emphatic style, beating his rival by over 20 lengths.

Today's race should be a formality for Viking Flagship (3.05), who has repeatedly had the measure of Travado — over six lengths

vado — over six lengths behind him in the Champion Chase — and is simply differ-ent class to the other runner. My only reservation is to wonder whether it is strictly necessary for connections to ask Viking Flagship for yet another effort this season. This will be his seventh race

and fourth since February 24.
One of the nicest young horses around this season is Strong Promise (3.40), who should be up to shouldering top weight in the EBF Novice Handicap Hurdle Final.

Geoff Hubbard, his owner-trainer, said earlier this season that he would not be over-racing this five-year-old but he has not been able to stick to that resolve and this will be a ninth outing for Strong Promise, who should win if recovered from his second to

Urubande at Aintree.
The quality of the runners in the Timeform Golden Miller Handicap Chase do not quite measure up to the gran-diose race title, but Big Ben Dun (4.15) is lightly raced and could go close off bottom

On the Flat at Hamilton, Whether that was a true reflection of the respective the in-form stable of David Nimerits of the two horses is open to doubt, for when they Calder Apprentice Handicap.

Carroll in trouble over non-trier

TRAINER Tony Carroll was fined 2500 and jockey Richard Davis in public after the stewards benned for five days under considered the colt had the non-triers rule at been tenderly handled

ing Conductor in division two of the National Hunt Flat Ruce.

212 014T00 - EURODOBO (190) (CD) FI Modeller 0-8-6 218 00400-0 SAMESHINI LOVELYLADY (T) E Waymen - Named (1970) (D) 6 Okjanje 8-6-2

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TOP FORM TIPE: My Callery B, Diet 7, Natural Key 6

4.05 DUNNAK MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES 270 SF 22,507

They were found guilty of schooling and conditioning

Worcester yesterday.

The pair were up before the stewards concerning the running and riding of newcomer South West Express, who finished 11th, beaten 24 lengths by Liten-fine Conductor in division. "I think I've been very hard done by. The horse has his quirks and has been difficult to get this far."

Cheltenham (N.H.) with guide to the form

4.15 Hig Ben Dun

1.55 p. a. southe notice hadroical chart seem baset

D. J. HOUSEN ROYSET MANDECKY CHARM 2018 OF SAME AND THE PROPERTY TO SHEMMEN (10) CT TRANSIC PROPERTY 7-1-10 J. J. COOK WOODSPORK TO ALLE (42) IN Headersine 6-13-6 J. COOK WOODSPORK TO ALLE (42) IN Headersine 6-13-6 J. COOK WOODSPORK TO ALLE (42) IN THE PROPERTY OF THE P TOP FORM 1979: Minteperts Cale 15, the Problems 7, Pinn To Service 6
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188th Allegation S 11 B R Dameroving 7-48 (Ri Physi) 6 ram
Heldings 7-4 Mole Sound, 9-4 Serv Eight, 7-2 Brackery Size, 5-2 Hops And Popu

PRIFUSH
2.10(ED; 1., PROUD HATTVE, J'Taie (8-1);
2. Deable Park (8-1); 3., The Gay Peri (10-11, 13-8 law Prince of Parkes, 5 ran. 12,
15. (A Jarvis) Tole; 16.90; 16.00, 11.50,
17.90. Dual F. 122.90, 159; 282.30.
2.40. (The 46 60)40; 1., COASTRICTS
LEGERIE, I. Chernock (7-1); 3., Watch No.
20. (8-1); 3., Dola Dec (80-1); 4. Holds
Permais (3-1 law), 15 ran. Nil. sh ht25; (J.
Bettornies) Tole. 110.01; 12.90, 12.10, 24.80.
Dual F. 127, 10. The 1287, 30. GBP: 108.84.
Trickel, 17.037, 44.
2.10 (20); 1., SUPER BERGE, F. Lappin (6-1)

OFF TO HEIDERON IDEN. OGADPON CS.40.



22.50, C3.10. Dual F; 522.50. GSF; 523.16. Tricast 539.20. a. 50a 1, GMRSTPAL SALUTE, A P McCoy (16.1); 2, Marchy Westber (4-1); 3, Store Breamble (22-1); 4-5 lay Best of Friends, 15 ran. 1, 18. (G Balding) Tota; 574.50; 5270, C3.60; 576.00 af F; 575.50. Tric 525.50. CGF; 579.05. Sanda Point. who Brish second, was claquasified and placed. 4.20a 1, CORTI D'ESTRUYAL, A P McCoy (10-1) favi: 2, Wiles Approach (11-1); 3, Sevene of Diagnoscia (11-2), 8 ran. 4, 35. (5 Lacor 1, Count Destination A. P Niccoy (10-11 livit; 2, Whee Approach (11-1); 3, Seven of Dispusceds (11-2), 3 ran. 4, 55, (6 Selding) Tota: 27,50; 51,10; 52,00; 71,50; Dual F: 12-00, CSF: 12-07, Tricast SSR.78.

4.50; 1, Shripp STEALER, Chris Webb (11-4 lav); 2, Polly Lacoh (5-1); 3, Chris hadden (6-1), 9 ran. 11, 5, (8 Peacock) Totast (2,80; 11-10, 52,90; 52,40; Dual F: 13,00; CSP: 177.22, Tyle: 12-50, Tylestt S72.77, PLACEPOTE 5481.59. GUADPOTE 523.00

2.00; 1, OUT RABBUTION, J. Course (4-1 fave); 2, Bedieroee (20-1); 2, Stebeley Houses (5-1); 21 ran. 2, 6 (M Pipe) Tols: (2.72 č.) 40, 10.0, (2.50, Dua) P. (190.30, Tric. Not won. GSF: 178.07. 2.30; 1, "YOURKTTERMELIEVEST, G Bradley (1-2); 2, Joshum's Wiston (50-1); Demokration (33-1), 2-4 by The Capitain's

third. 2.000 1, Starson 600000, M.A. Pitaporald (4-1):-inv); 2, Familiaridge (6-1); 2, Sound Formant (20-1). 4-1 ji-inv Savva Sav, 12 743. 2, 10 ji-indger/10000 (337); 21-40, 71-50, 74.50. Dual F. Ef.So. Teler (327); 30. CSF-

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Channel 4

TOP FORM TIPS: Chicodes! & Fernals! ? tings 4-6 Calcodari, 9-9 Delly Boy, 11-2 Pignosdaru, 9-4 United Front, 16-1 Forestal PORMER GALEGORI - SHIPCOOLANIS LAST INC. quicknamed climic Stat, as Doymmer 27 (Famiur 2015), Grit, DALLLY BOYK, Last to bug, no chance with infrante. 500 20st to Edelmont to Manufac (Menacisality 2m, Sig., Light TEO PRODUITS Spenisy beaman Sir Ower Zwill last Way: provincely wage by 41 from Anjalogucia (Menacisality Menacisality wage by 41 from Anjalogucia (Menacisality Menacisality wage by 41 from Anjalogucia (Menacisality Menacisality Wage By Anjalogucia (Menacisality Menacisality Wage By Anjalogucia (Menacisality Menacisality Wage By Anjalogucia (Menacisality Menacisality Menac

 Warren Marston, who picked up a two-day ban for careless riding at Worcester yesterday, will miss the big meeting at Ayr later this month when he was due to partner Willstord or Do Be Brief in the Scottish Grand National, and Indefence or Master Tribe in the Scottish Champion Hurdle.

Blinkgred first time today: None.

Hamilton runners and riders

a sheet for loose change

4.05 Irish Fiction

Onless Cone (Chrod to work in plants). * Descript bilishers. 101 22781 MAPLE BAY (9) (90 mg (0) A Salley 7-8-15 . 108 64-000 TALENTED TING (E) (CD) F Hastern 7-4-10 _

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Buillings 8-1 Maple Bay, 7-2 Recebo Hallzor, 6-1 Televind Ting, 8-1 Madder Otthe In Lile, Soeke Pilesient, Tinkings Folly, 12-1 Wassions

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204 604-6 GET TOUGH (47) K Modellin R-0
205 00-0 MISTER WOODSTICK (47) M Jarvin R-0
206 05-03 RATTLE (8) J OVER R-0
207 20-00VERT KIND (473) P Mischell S-0
208 50-204 DUMINISH PRINCESS (7) M COMMAN. A Dudy (5) B P Reddense (S Williams) TESP FORM TIPS: Farest than 8. December Princess 7, Get Tespis 6

3.30 DAVIE COOPER MEMBERS HANDICAP OF EXAM

2 PM STELL HERE (16) J Borry 9-0 __ 22 IRREN FICTION (1) M Channe 9-0 OCR FUTURE M Johnson 9-0 COR FUTURE N Johnson 9-0 OF FORM TIPS: Inich Piotics S. I'm Sell Sers 7 etting: 7-4 insh Piction, 9-1 i'm 8till Here. 9-4 Our Feture, 10-1 Express Ciri 000-12 ASTRAL WINNES (II) L. LINGO 5-8-1
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50004-0 ARABITAL (IN) MIDITAL TRANSIT (IN)
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EXERT FARSAN (IN)
EXERT F Retifiege 15-4 Autral Works, 7-2 Fixeson, 3-9 Calder King, 6-1 Eau De Cologne, 6-1 Membriss Turgeren, King Garan, 16-1 House Of Drinkrik 5.15 дозаги воритск арти ментирач напрісар ти ві садаза 15 JOSEPH BODTHICK SOTH MINTEDAY MANDRICAP 118 HT C
12550-6 CUTTHROAT KID (B) (CD) Mrs M Reveley 6-0-12
12754-6 LORD MASTER (13) C Thomas 8-8-8
1000-65 SANAWAY (LD) (B-7) D Micholis 8-8-9
128000- KREW TO THE LAST (1983) M Hammord 4-9-8
128000- KREW TO THE LAST (1983) M Hammord 4-9-8
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130-0131 COLOSEE (16) J Eyre 4-9-12
131-1310 COLOSEE (16) J Eyre 4-9-12
13-1310 C

Settings 11-2 by Gallery, 6-1 Utra Sest, 7-1 Garnock Valley, 8-1 Leading Princess, Dist, 10-1 Hateral Kay, Desaites, 15-1 Partier, Craigle Boy

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Fontwell National Hunt card

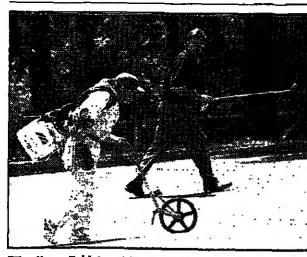
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Wheelie . . . Faldo's caddie Fanny Sunesson measures a shot

David Davies at Augusta says that when battle commences for the green jacket at the US Masters today, the long are more blessed than the short and the tall

Els gets set to throw the power switch

essence, simple; the answer full of imponderables. What does it take to win the US Masters? Who, in a field of 93, has the best chance of sliding his arms into the green coat that goes to the champion come

For as long as the Masters has been played, and this is the 60th edition, at the Au-gusta National golf club cer-

anyone else. They both, of course, kept it in play as well, which made them, with Gary Player, the Big Three, the dominant players of their era.

Now the game has moved on. There is no such thing

any more as a dominant player, but there is still a section of golf's society that has a demonstrable advantage when it comes to the winning of the first of the season's majors: the men with the mus-cles, Big Boys Inc, the power hitters who prosper enormously at certain holes at

They are all holes where the design and the terrain in that an elite part of the field can gain up to 50 or 60 yards off the tee on their less well-endowed brethren. which in turn means that they will be hitting much

shorter clubs into the greens. The graphic (right) shows the holes and the advantages gained, but it has to be stressed that only a small

HE question is, in golfers are not created equal essence, simple; the and only a few have God's gift

of extreme length.

It may be that an amateur will prove to be this year's longest of the long, for only yesterday Greg Norman said of Tiger Woods that he con-sidered him able to hit the ball further than John Daly Daly, of course, is the man of whom David Feherty said that he was so long that he had to take the curvature of

gusta National tain players have held a nuge advantage over the field.

There was a time, for instance, in the Sixties, when if the title did not go to Jack Nicklaus it went to Arnold Palmer, for those two men had palmer, for those two men had better be both good and in form.

Norman and Norman and Almost category and almost no one is longer than Davis Love III when he unwinds one — and anyone seeking to outdrive Erriie Els had better be both good and in form. Tom Lehman, who almost

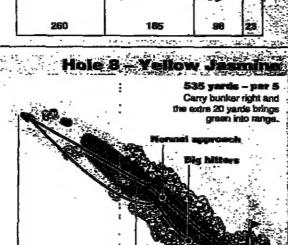
beat Jose-Maria Olazabal in 1994, is a big man and belts it a long way and Ian Woosnam is a small man who hits it an incredible distance when

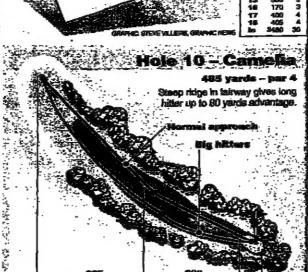
The Japanese would argue that Jumbo Ozaki is not outdistanced by anyone and the massive arc generated by Vi-jay Singh culminates in the ball being dispatched frightening distances.
Fred Couples may not be

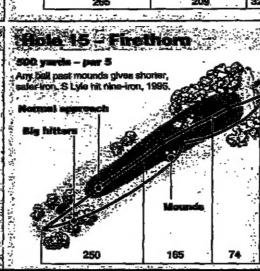
for his back troubles him now and again, but he is still lone enough, while Sandy Lyle, champion in 1988, feels he is longer now than then. Day in. 1 day out, Lyle may be the long- chances. To take them in est of them all and because of order, Woods, in theory, has that Augusta ought to suit no chance at all because no him particularly. But he missed the cut after he won and his record since has not

been good. This year, though, he has an extra and a special reason for wanting to win. His proportion of the field will be able to avail themselves of the professional at Hawkstone advantages offered. All Park in Shropshire, died in all four rounds and with last at the lith hole by Larry Mize









February and, said Lyle: "I'd | year's experience behind him love to win this for him." Lyle | could be dangerous. sor was at Augusta to witness "literally wore out the video tape in the years afterwards". Lyle is probably not far enough along the road to recovery to win this week, but all the above mentioned

Hole 13 – Azalea

Draw bell mund comer and three-

In theory Augusta is made for Daly. A huge hitter, he can carry all the obstacles and, in theory again, there is no rough at all on the course. But Daly is occasionally so wild that he finds places not even he can recover from, and There is one group that has an advantage: the men with the muscles, Big Boys Inc,

have good-to-outstanding the sevens and eights amateur since Bobby Jones in 1930 has won a major championship. But such eminences as Norman and Love are not prepared to write him off simply because he has such an abundant talent. Woods was

simply must not appear on a Norman is a clear candidate for favouritism. He has

the length, the accuracy, the experience, the desire and, some would say, a need to be recompensed for ill luck in the past. This ain't necessarily so. Most of his misfortunes

though, has it all.

and, given an all-round game would appear to have only one weakness, which is a major one given that it is his temperament. The Masters '95 is the only major in an otherwise successful 11-year career in which he was actually in

Els, on the other hand, has won the US Open in a career that encompasses just 15 a man who is seriously long. The South African's season has started slowly but no one has a softer touch when ous contender this one. determined. He is certainly

one of the US's better golfers and he could win, but like

so. He hates competing outside Japan and plays Augusta mostly because various con-

Finally Singh and Couples. It may be that the latter used up all his luck at Augusta when he won in 1992, the year his ball defied gravity and refused to run down a shaven bank into Rae's Creek. Anyway, since then a frailty has crept into his game over the short putts, and there are plenty of those at Augusta.

He or Colin Montgomerie may be the best golfer never to have won a major, and what a story it would be in of Georgia if the tall Fijian Lehman is long, and he is were to become Masters champion.

It may indeed lie between Singh and the Scot, for Mont-Woosnam, who may not yet gomerie has talents that make have acquired sufficient confidence, would have to be at the very longest. But there is his absolute best to end up in the green.

the year longest. But there is a large shadow over all of them, that of Theodore Ernest the green.

Ozaki's chance is purely theoretical. His game is perfectly suited; his attitude not second major championship.

side down."

The 1994 season had been his best: victory in the French Open, ninth in the Volvo Order of Merit, hopes of a Ryder Cup place — and suddenly it was gone. Golf became unimportant and

unpleyable. He finished 126th on the 1995 money list. The only bright spot was that unexpected show-ing in the US Open, the

Athletics

Jackson to reconsider **BAF** boycott

Colin Jackson to sion to boycott most of the big ever, he will not seek a recon cliation with Peter Radford the chief executive of the Brit-ish Athletic Federation.

Jackson, the 110-metres hurdles world record holder, is ready to reverse his decialon never to compete in a meeting organised by the BAF while Radford is in his present position. He believes he was humiliated by Radford at a meeting last summer.
"My mum and nan are screaming at me to run because my nan doesn't have satellite television and she is wortled she will never see me run otherwise," said the Walchman

Welshman.
Jackson's only scheduled appearances in Britain this summer are the Welsh Games next month and the Olympic trials in Birmingham in June. But he will meet with officials from the BAF promotions unit next week when he returns from races in Cape Town and Johannesburg.
"I will be meeting the pro-

Town and Johannesburg.
"I will be meeting the promotions people who know how strongly I feel on the issue," he said at the Visa Olympic sponsorship launch in London. "If they can understand the problems I had last year that is the key thing. The RAF and the public would like to see me competing, so there is a lot to

Jackson's relationship with Radford, however, appears fractured beyond repair. "Peter Radford had better not approach me because there's no way I'll sit down and talk

Things came to a head dur-ing the world championship trials last July when Jackson. running in the 100m, pulled out injured after the heats and then turned up in Italy the next day to run in a hurdles race. At a later meeting Jackson claimed Radford treated him like a "schoolboy" and "virtually accused me of lying about the injury". The controversy resulted in Jackson failing to defend his

world title in Gothenburg.
"When you are ill and injured and someone comes into the federation and tries to walk all over you, all the frustrations come to a head," said Jackson. "I have calmed down in myself but what happened last year still sticks in my mind. It's not enough for Peter Radford to apologise be-

Even if he does make his peace with the BAF, it is too late for him to compete in Britain's flagship meeting, the IAAF Grand Prix event at Crystal Palace on July 12. He will have left for Atlanta to finalise preparations for his attempt on the one title that has so far eluded him.

 Kelly Holmes, who flies to Atlanta next week to acclima-tise for the Games, will have two races during her four week stay. The 25-year-old army sergeant competes over 800m on May 3 and over a mile in a grand-prix meeting on May 18.

Holmes, who won 800m pronze and 1500m silver in the World Championships in Gothenburg last season, has not yet decided whether to double up in Atlanta.

Rugby League

Fairbank cup place in danger

ARL FAIRBANK, Brad-ford Bulls' long-serving forward, will anxiously await the outcome of today's disciplinary hearing after operation for a badly broken against Sheffield Ragles last Friday. Anything more than a two-match suspension would rule the 32-year-old Fairbank out of the Challenge Cup final against St Helens at Wembley on April 27.

Fairbank, who has made 16 appearances for Great Brit-ain, is the last of five brothers still playing the game. He joined Bradford from the Rlland amateur club in 1986. Dick, the eldest, played for Halifax in the 1988 Challenge Cup final against Wigan.

The Bulls have other prob-lems as they prepare for Sun-day's cup final rehearsal at St Helens. Glen Tomlinson, Matt Calland and Bernard Dwyer are doubtful, and Jeremy Donougher, the Australian forward who collapsed unconscious after the Sheffleld game, is out with a neck

injury. Graeme Hallas, the Halifax back, has been cited by the

Rugby Football League and will appear before the disciplinary committee for a challenge on Oldham's winger Rob Myler last Friday. Myler could be absent for

nose. "Fortunately Quinn, Oldham's chairman, "he has not sustained the fractured cheekbone that was suspected." Quinn claimed that the tackle was "appall-ing" and added that "the game is hard enough without these high tackles doing seri-

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Scottish Pro

Hang

The rest of the sales

ous damage". Martin Dermott, the 29year-old Wigan and Great Britain booker, looks likely to leave a clutch of clubs — including Perth Western Reds. Cronulla and Warrington disappointed by pledging his

future to Wigan. South Wales are being linked with the Warrington and Wales forward Mark Jones. "If South Wales make a realistic offer it will be considered," said Alex Murphy, Warrington's football director. allowed to move on loan. "We have already loaned them Andy Currier." said Murphy. "We are not a charity."

Hockey

GB trip may be in vain

THE men's Great Britain squad arrived here late on Tuesday for a pre-Clympic tournament to find that the event may not take place.

hockey venue at the Morris Brown College unavailable, but the second pitch at Clark Atlantic University has still not been relaid.

The managers of the six competing teams, led by Brit-sin's David Whittle, were in discussions all day yesterday with tournament officials. This chaotic situation is the result of a conflict of interests between the Olympic organising committee (ACOG), the tournament organisers, the US Field Hockey Association

and university authorities. It has been further complicated by incessant rain that has delayed work on the Clark pitch, which is having to be relaid because it was deemed unsafe after an

ACOG-sponsored women's in-ternational event last August. Yesterday, after a proposal to move the event to San Diego was rejected, teams to move the event to San during yesterday's Ghent-We-biego was rejected, teams were practising on the Clark Belgian. Tom Steels. He outwarm-up field to see if it could be used to stage the

Sport in brief

Badminton Anne Gibson, who recently became the first Scot to qual-

ity for an Olympic Games, yesterday became the first to gain a women's singles seed-ing at the European Champi-onships, writes Richard Jago. The 28-year-old slips in as a replacement at No. 8 in the Europeans in Herning with the withdrawal of the title holder Lim Xiao Qing.

Sailing

A Russian entry for the 1997-98 Whitbread Round the World race was announced at the Moscow Boat Show, writes Bob Fisher. Ruseia 300 will be skippered by Eugene Platon, who has competed in two pre-vious Whitbreads.

Basketball

Another NBA player has struck a referee. Nick Van Exel, the Los Angeles Lakers guard, blew up after being ejected late in a 98-91 loss to the Denver Nuggets and sent Ron Garretson crashing on to the scorer's table with a fore-

Wilfried Nelissen is likely to miss the rest of the season after breaking a leg in a fall sprinted a pack headed by Italy's Glovanni Lombardi



Trigger happy to shoot for stars

Helen Smyth talks to Sheffield's Mark Roe, would be on each day, his feelings and thoughts about thing to be in place and for the place."

Just breathing is a joy for Roe these days. In March side down."

would be on each day, his feelings and thoughts about a year it wasn't like that. My whole life was upside down." most unlikely competitor at the Masters

who prosper enormously at Augusta

ARK ROE was opening his post on Christmas Eve when he came across "a lovely."

"The Open is the major championship without comparison but the Masters is special. It has this he came across "a lovely. cream envelope with beautiful scrolling". Intrigued, he looked at the postmark and thought: "Now who do I know in Georgia?" It was

tiful scrolling". Intrigued, he looked at the postmark and thought: "Now who do I know in Georgia?" It was his Masters invitation.

"That was when it sank in that I was really going," said Roe, who earned his place in characteristically unlikely fashion in the middle of his worst season as a professional. The 33-year-old from Sheffield had tied for 13th place in the US Open at Chinnecock Hills, which meant automatic qualification for Augusta.

"I've been getting more and more excited the closer it gets," said Roe, "but then

mystique because you can't get in the bloody thing. It's

and more excited the closer seve. Ideat were just a few the mess is timer now. It gets," said Roe, "but then you start worrying — don't us. He was great company and gave me a lot of point-twist an ankle, don't break ers, insights into where to hit the ball, where the flags shops. "Twe always been a finger. I'm so excited."

Just breathing is a joy for Roe these days. In March last year be was such an emotional mess that he sat

in his attic with a loaded m his artic with a loaded shotgun in his mouth, thinking how easy it would be to end it all. Instead, he put the gun away — his peers call him Trigger now — and sorted out his life.

16 yayrs that he had fallen

16 years, that he had fallen in love with someone else. "The hardest thing was coming to terms with the fact that I would be harting someone I'd love." Roe said. "It was the lowest point in my life."

They are now divorced—
"It hasn't been a nasty,
angry, little divorce. Neither of us wanted it to drag on" - and he has settled down with Julia Morris, the new woman in his life. The mess is tidier now.

minor miracle that has brought him here, ready to attend to the problem of coping with 12-foot putts with 15 feet of break—

something he encountered at the 4th last Sunday. Roe will probably have to face many such conundrums in Augusta. He has missed the cut in five of his

six outings this year and a best finish of 34th equal in the Portuguese Open last month means he is not expected to bother the book-makers. But he does not care. Life is sweet and he wants to play golf again.

Ice Hockey

Referee under fire as Britain blow hot then blow out

Tony Allen in Elndhoven

THE Great Britain coach
Peter Woods had few good
words for the Finnish referee
after the 6-5 defeat by Latvia,
the tournament favourites, in
the opening game of the
World Championship Pool B.
World Championship Pool B.

(that led to their winning goal) was something of a mys-

one-sided and the penalty | minder Andrei Zinkov had saved his first shot. Graham Garden and Igora Paviovs exchanged goals before Alexandra Macjevskis restored Latvia's lead in the 29th minute. Britain again

responded within a minute the opening game of the World Championship Pool B.
Britain, 5-3 ahead at one point, fell to a decisive goal by Alexandrs Belaviskis midway through the final period while playing one man short.

"The refereeing was a bit the final period while playing one man short.

"The refereeing was a bit the final period while score from a rebound almost immediately after the net was being fine from the goal by the netminder and then Mike immediately after the net-

changed their netminder, and with him their fortunes. Sergeis Boldavesko and Vyaches lavs Fanduls brought the scores level before Stephen Foster, who performed hero-ically on his international return, was besten by Bela-viskis while Moria was serv-

ing a penalty.
Hopes of a late equaliser were dashed when Bishop was penalised for hooking, leaving Britain to play the final 91 seconds short-handed

ik cup

dange

Springer bei

League One: Gloucester 16, Bath 10

Smith kicks legs

from under Bath

Soccer

John Dunca

Whitington given drug ban



RAIG Whitington's future as a player with Huddersfield Town still bangs in the balance after being found guilty of misconduct yesterday by the Football Association for twice using

The 25-year-old striker

separate occasions in 10 ing that he had not know-mouths by the FA's doping unit. Whitington has been suspended by the Yorkshire club since falling the second test on January 9 and yesterday an FA commission claimed to him from taking drug unwittingly in January. beined him from taking part in any footballing ac-tivity until November 1. The former Crawley and

drug unwittingly in January when smoking strangers' cigarettes at a New Year's Eve party. But the scientific evidence given by Dr David Cowan,

renowned Drugs Control

Centre at King's College, Chelsea, stated that the drug was most likely taken about 24 hours before the anuary 9 test. The Huddersfield secr

tary Alan Sykes said the club would issue a detailed statement today. "Huddersfield have always taken a very serious view of this matter," he said. Whitington, who has made only one first-team appearance since his

£20,000 transfer from Sca borough two years ago, of-fered a plea of mitigation. But as with Roger Stanis-laus, who was banned for a year earlier this season and then dismissed by Orient for using cocaine, the case involved an important precedent. The first case of a player testing positive twice left the commission with little alternative but

Robert Armstrong Gloucester's indiscipline with a crisp penalty by Butland from the edge of the box But Gloucester's impressive abil-LOUCESTER threw the Championship race wide open with a superbly orchestrated victory over Bath that brought obvious joy to the small band of the contraction of the small band of the contraction of the small band ity to play to a varied game-plan, mixing up midfield ag-gression with judicious line-kleking by Kimber, kept Bath Leicester supporters in the Kingsholm crowd last night. on the back foot for lengthy periods. Bath's decision to

periods. Bath's decision to play Mike Catt at centre in-stead of fly-half where he was instrumental in the recent de-feat of Harlequins, looked highly suspect, though the ab-sence of Guscott, filming in Accurate goal-kicking by the full-back Tim smith, who landed three penalties and converted Paul Holford's try, set the seal on a Gloucester triumph that does much to ease their fears of relegation.

Bath, who paid dearly for missing four penalties, remain two points ahead of South Africa, did not help matters either. Whatever Bath's di rugby Jon Hall said to his players during the interval, there was no obvious im-provement in their second-Leicester at the top of the table with one game more played. The leaders' superior scoring difference also gives them useful insurance, but half tactical pattern. Shortly after the break Butland's their remaining league games at Saracens and Orrell and at fourth penalty miss in five at-tempts did nothign to imhome to Sale now take on greatly enhanced signifi-cance. Leicester, who have four games left, can, like Bath, still contemplate the prove Bath's self-belief or dent Gloucester's burgeoning

Rugby Union

morale. To make matters worse, Ben Clarke, Bath's main prospect of a league and cup double. source of yardage in the back row, had to go off 15 minutes Bath knew they were in for a torrid evening after just four minutes when Glouces-ter took the lead with a brilinjury.
Smith kicked a second penalty from nearly 40 metres to give his side a 13-3 lead and,

liantly-worked try in the right corner, Scott Benton, Gloucester's Yorkshire-born scrum-half, picked up at the base of a scrum and sprinted a full 60 metres before ship-ping the ball to Holford, who crashed over at the flag. Soon afterwards Smith

stretched Gloucester's lead to 10-0 with a short penalty that drew fresh acclamation from the 12,000 crowd. Bath squandered opportunities to cut the deficit when Richard Butland, who deputised as goal-kicker for the absent Jon Callard, failed with a couple of longrange penalties.
Midway through the half,

not to be denied. Smith's third penalty goal eight minutes from time merely served to underline a famous

even though De Glanville

68th minute, Gloucester were

will be on Twickenham's side

EPRUC," he said. "I would

versation with Sir John Hall and I hope that Richmond can

be part of negotiations. We support the RFU, but accept that the game must change."

England's top clubs meet today to respond to the RFU's plans. But Sir John Hall,

Newcastle's millionaire bene-

factor, last night responded angrily to the RFU's claims

that he was trying to run the

game along soccer lines.
"The RFU can have a go at

what they're saying is absolute nonsense," Sir John said.

"I'm only chairman of the

Division Two clubs. Donald Kerr of Flarlequins is chair-man of the EPRUC and he

represents the top clubs who want to go professional. We at Newcastle are only one of

many voices.
"The clubs have tried to be

conciliatory in their negotia-tions with the RFU. But we

have been greeted with a neg-

thought the word nist had

gone out with the end of the

Cold War. It hasn't. The RFU have re-invented it and have

Meanwhile, talks aimed at

its dillerences

if the RFU's current spat with the EPRUC is prolonged.

We support the RFU maintaining the governing of the game and hope it can resolve

Richmond enter the market-place

ian Malin on the latest club trying to buy their pitch

like Richmond to play a role in that resolution. I had a con-HE day after the Rugby
Football Union ordered
the entrepreneurs backing its leading clubs to fall
into line, cheque books
opened again yesterday. Richmond, the faded aristocrats of

League Three, signed the for-mer Wales half-backs Adrian Davies and Andrew Moore. Richmond are estimated to be paying the Cardiff pair £50,000 a season for their fiveyear contracts. The fly-half Davies and the scrum-half Moore are the first of a succession of signings made possible by the injection of

f2.5 million from the busi-nessman Ashley Levett. Second-placed Richmond, who clinched promotion last month, have already made a England No. 8 Ben Clarke.

Richmond's chief executive Symon Elliott said: "We will be amouncing new signings in the coming weeks who will have similar attitudes, style, age and experience." But he flatly refused to discuss the possibility of the former Saracens forward Clarke return-

ing to London.
Richmond, founder members of the RFU in 1871, will automatically become mem-bers of English Professional Rugby Union Clubs next season when they enter League Two. On Tuesday the RFU got tough with the clubs in the top divisions by announcing plans for European competition and an Anglo-Welsh league, the resurrection of a divisional championship involving sides from the Southern Hemisphere and insisting there will be relegation from

healing another rift between England and their Five coverage have been ad-journed until the weekend. England have been criti-cised by Wales, Scotland and

France over attempts by the RFU to put together a £150 million package with Sky TV when the BBC contract for coverage of the Five Nations expires next spring. Talks will resume at a meeting of League One this season. the Five Nations committee Elliott promised his club in Dublin on Sunday.

THE Lions' 13-match tour of South Africa in 1997, their first to the Republic since the ending of apartheid, will kick-off in a township when they play an Eastern Province Invitational XV in

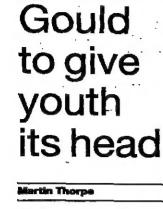
They have not visited South Africa since 1980 and the itinerary follows the pattern of recent Lions' tours to Australia and New Zealand, with the three Tests being crammed

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N ORDER to check on his younger players before Wa-les's World Cup qualifiers begin against San Marino on June 2, Bobby Gould has announced an experimental squad lacking four of his most experienced players for the friendly game in Switzerland. Missing from the squad to play in Lugano on April 24

are Neville Southall, Ryan Giggs, Mark Hughes and Ian travel with the party in his capacity as coach.

We are approaching a very important time for Wales," said Gould. "There are times when you have to experiment and this is our last chance be-fore the World Cup."

Back into the squad comes after a four-match international suspension, while there are first call-ups for the Watford defender Robert Page and the Birmingham mid-

flelder Andrew Legg. Northern Ireland's Bryan Hamilton will also take the chance to run his eye over up and coming talent when his side meet Sweden at Windsor Park on the same night.

Silver quits as chairman of Leeds

ESLIE SILVER, the chairman of Leeds United retired on medical grounds yesterday, leaving the managing director Bill Fotherby to become acting chairman. Silver's decision follows

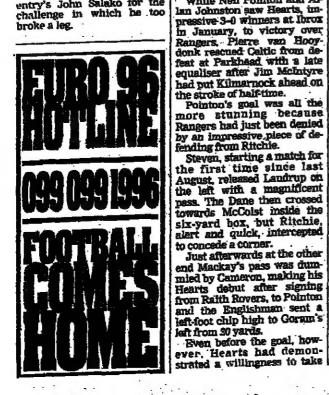
poor results and unrest among supporters, but the former head of a paint manu-facturing group said: "I am leaving the board altogether. I have been advised by medical experts to slow down."

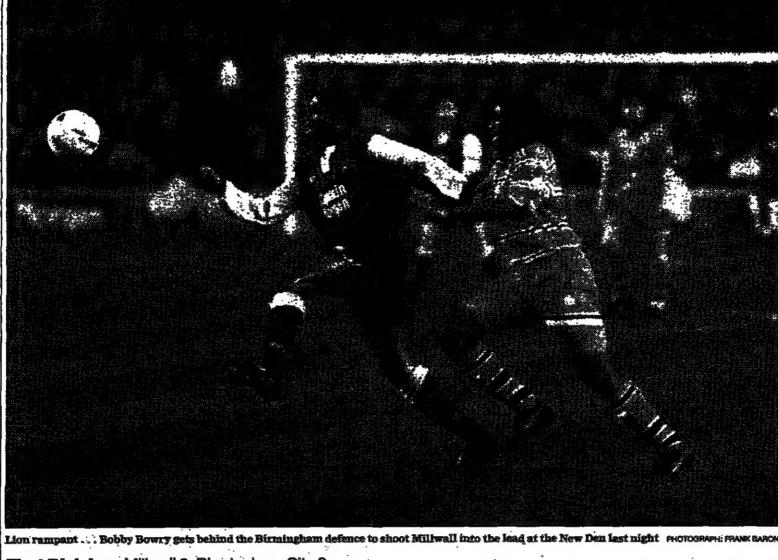
Silver, who is 71 and joined the board in April 1981, will keep his majority sharehold-ing in the club for the time being and the change is un-likely to influence the manager Howard Wilkinson's im-

mediate future. The Coventry defender

The Coventry defender David Busst must wait until next week for surgery to repair his right leg, badly fractured in Monday's defeat at Manchester United.

Liverpool's Steve Harkness unsisted yesterday that he brars no grudges against Coventry's John Salako for the challenge in which he too broke a leg. broke a leg.





First Division: Millwall 2, Birmingham City 0

Bowry boys leave Birmingham bereft.

Martin Thorpe

three points further away from the relegation mire.

Birmingham will now to have to work hard to make the play-offs after three wins in a row had raised

The game was staged against an ugly back-drop of pre-match speculation about crowd trouble following death threats received by Birmingham personnel. This followed streets remained peaceful fingest thanks largely to a the back post outjumped with closure.

All the burbanties in the wint of the week of the fired over a cross from the left bye-line under pressure from Breen, the ball sailed over Griemink and Malking thanks largely to at the back post outjumped.

Patrick Glenn

Scottish Cup final. While Neil Pointon and Al-

feat at Parkhead with a late equaliser after Jim McIntyre

had put Kilmarnock ahead on

Pointon's goal was all the more stunning because Rangers had just been denied

by an impressive piece of de-fending from Ritchie.

Steven, starting a match for the first time since last

August released Laudrup on the left with a magnificent

pass. The Dane then crossed towards McColst inside the

six-yard box, but Ritchie, slart and quick, intercepted

to concede a corner.
Just afterwards at the other

end Mackay's pass was dum-

mied by Cameron, making his

Even before the goal, however. Hearts had demon-

the stroke of half-time.

Scottish Premier Division:

Heart of Midlothian 2, Rangers 0

Rangers slump

ANGERS' defeat at Tynecastle last night saw
their lead cut to four
points with Celtic drawing at
home to Klimarnock, and it
would have boosted Hearts'
confidence for next month's
Hampden Park showdown
against the champions in the
Scottish Cup final.
While Neil Pointon and AlGough's clearance rebounded

it served Millwall's purpose by taking them Karren Brady, the Birmingham managing director, incensed Miliwall by hlaming their fans for the trouble, an allegation refuted by an FA inquiry which threatened St An-

the same to their opponents

with Johnston, Cameron and

Gough's clearance rebounded from Robertson to Johnston.

but the winger pulled his shot from the right wide of the far

An unusually panicky McCoist also missed a good opportunity for the equaliser when Laudrup played the ball through to the edge of the area. McCoist turned clear, but rushed an untidy shot will be the seas hooked.

well wide. He was booked

shortly afterwards for a foul on Ritchie.

Allan Johnston's magnifi-

cent second goal, when he rounded Goram and shot into

an empty net from Fulton's

through pass, was merely confirmation of Hearts supe

riority on another stirring

richtly on another surring night for them.

Hearts Rousset: McManus, Frachle, Mackey, McPherson, Brano, Johnston, Cameron, Fobertson, Fulton, Pointon, Romeron, Gough, McLaren, Patric, Steven, Gascolpas, McCell, Landrap, Raturne H Dellas (McCell, Landrap, Baturne H Dellas (McCell, Landrap, Baturne)

polaed for a surprise Republic of Ireland recall for the game against the Czech Republic in

Prague on April 24 because of injuries to their three main

then whacked it low from extra venom and quickly inst outside the area past took control. Gordon hit the Birmingham back four, standing stationary and dumbfounded in line kin went one better to in-

Results

First Division

Bowry 10 Makin 53

Hearts (1) 2. Pointon 34 Johnston 83

ENDSLEIGH LEAGUE ...

BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE

UNISONED LEGACION Premier Didelon, Marine 4, Phylo Uni 3, Plest Divisions Brustiert PA 5, Completen 7n 6, Presi-dent's Cust Seed-Sant, monted logs Santher String 2, Worksop 2 (agg. 2-0). ICES LEAGUES Premier Didelon; Youi-

last November's notorious before kick-off. City's early just two wins in 11 games game between the two sides problems last night centred under the new manager when the Millwall team bus on the pitch where Millwall Jimmy Nicholl, who joined went ahead after just 10 minutes. A neat back-heel from the Russian Yuran fed Bowry, who took two touches to control the ball Millwall emerged with

GETLY Stevens Meader. Sevens Van Blerk, Walr, Navinan, Bowler, Sevens Van Blerk, Walr, Newman, Bowle, Gordon Yuran, Malkin, Birsellogham Citys Griemfak, Breen Edwards, Johnson, Grainger Devilin, Comitorth, Talt, Hunt, Barnes Pearchicellogh

Basketball MBAs Nave Jecsey 94. Debroit 111; New York 97, Bosson 92; Denver 88, LA Léheré 91; Houston 90, Vancouver 84; Milweutee 96, Torrohi 102; Phoenic 91; Portland 88; Sacramente 96, Dellas 86.

Fixtures

Princedil (Ger) bt M. Knowies (Bah) 8-3, 7-6; M. Woodlarde (Aug.) bt K. Knoser (125) 6-3, 6-4; S. Belsmake (Appar) bt M. Tobbutt (Aug.) 6-7, 6-4, 7-6; K. Carlesen (Der) 16-7, 7-5, 6-2; T. Woodlarde (Aug.) 6-7, 6-4, 7-6; K. Carlesen (Der) 16-7, 7-5, 6-2; T. Woodlarde (Aug.) 6-7, 6-4, 7-6; K. Carlesen (Der) 16-7, 7-5, 6-2; T. Woodlarde (Ber) 16-7, 7-5, 6-2; T. Woodlarde (Ber) 16-7, 7-5, 6-2; T. Woodlarde (Ber) 16-7, 6-6, 19-8, 19-10,

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP: Group A terro-up Stockholm: Swiden 3, Cr 3. Paol it Madover Lakia 6, Grant Briship 5, Poland 5, Japan 2, Danmark 1, Natherlands 6, Cr 2, Milla Calgary 3, Dalles 4 (oi).

Barshar Sritiga 2 Wortscop 2 (agg: 9-3).

ISSS LEAGUES Premier Bedelicus Vesting 0, Borenam Wood 3.

ISSY COUNTLES LEAGUES President Briefless Personal Vesting 0, Borenam Wood 3.

ISSY COUNTLES LEAGUES Prest Divisions Branch 1, Post 1 Prest Divisions Asson 1: Sohon 0, Okidham 2: Man URI 4. West Brann 1: Bothon 0, Okidham 2: Man URI 4. West Brann 1: Bothon 0, Okidham 2: Man URI 4. West Brann 1: Leidersfuld 2: Blackpool 2, Barrasby 1; Leidersfuld 2: Blackpool 0, Branniby 1; Leidersfuld 2: Blackpool 0, Branniby 1; Leidersfuld 2: Blackpool 0, Branniby 1; Leidersfuld 2: Branniborne 0, Chember 6: Western 3: Cartisie 1.

AVOR INSURANCE COMEDINATION: Fest Divisions Bristol C 0, Tottenham 3: Bristol Form 0, Leider Royal C, Challen-Bristol C 0, Statistrophen 2, Challen-Branniborne 1, Statistrophen 1; Service 1, Bournamoust 4, Springen Bristol C 0, Tottenham 3: Bristol Form 0, Westernburg 2, Challen-Branniborne 1, Cambridge Uri 2, Branniborne 1, Cambridge Uri 2, Peterborough 6, Westernburg 1, Cambridge Uri 2, Peterborough 6, Westernburg 1, Cambridge Uri 2, Peterborough 6, Westernburg 1, Francisch Uri 2, Branniborne 1, Cambridge Uri 2, Peterborough 6, Westernburg 1, Francisch Uri 2, Branniborne 1, Cambridge Uri 2, Peterborough 6, Westernburg 1, Francisch Uri 2, Land Uri 2, Branniborne 1, Cambridge Uri 2, Peterborough 6, Westernburg 1, Branniborne 1, Sparts Roberdson 1, Franken LEAGUES Beyern Marini 1, St. Paul 1; Werder Bremen 2, Borusala Moenschengladbach C, Fortuna Duesterdon 2, Kalenniburn 1, Harburg 0, Fraiburg 0, 1981 Peter 1, Sparts Roberdson 1, Franken LEAGUES Meter 2, Bestia 0; Lyon 1, Quingamp 1, Densche Uri 2, Brannibur 1, Brannibur 1, Brannibur 1, Franken LEAGUES Meter 2, Bestia 0; Lyon 1, Quingamp 1, Densche Uri 2, Brannibur 1, Br Rugby Union COURAGE CLUES CHAMPIONSHIP Barls 10. SUPER 12: Cingo 33, Natal 32. WILLIS CORROW HOMERINIA CUP: Royal Navy 12, RAF 14.

ice Hockey

Soccer ACUS LEACOUR Float Divinions Bills

Grainger to head in. Hav-ing failed to stir his side

with words, Fry resorted to Plan B: the multiple substi-tution. Off went Hunt and

the recent signings Peschi-solido and Devlin and on

came Legg, Francis and

But it was Millwall who nearly added to their lead when Griemink had to

make an instinctive save to

deny Stevens' header.

Prite Sempres, the top seed, and the defending champion Michael Chang looked sluggish as they wen through to be second round of femilies is thene Knig Open yesterday. Sempres test the second set before beating Betwelfen Lareau of Cenada 5-1, 3-6, 5-1 and his follow American buffled to overcome Marcos Ondrugks of South Africa 7-6, 6-1.

The third-seeded Magdalena Maleres from Bulenia suffered a whock successform Suprais suffered a whock successform Suprais suffered a whock successform Suprais suffered as whock successforms.

Ismuel Kirul, Kanya's world 5,000 matres gold medallist, has tribured a log and has withdrawn bom Shurdey's Bupa International Give in Portamouth.

Samphen Hendry continues to head the provintonal world snooler ranking list entering the final normaniant of the 1995/98 season, the Embassy World Championship which state at the Crucible Theatre in Shefflets on April 20. The world champion's lead has been cut to 1970 points by his fellow Scot John Higgins, who maked out on the chance to contraite Hendry when he was beaten by Nilgal Eond, in the final of the British Open on Monday.

Soud's success promotite Aim in aboth in the ranking table, making him Issuarite to become the third marbles of the England item — ster John Parrott and Peter Eddon — for the World Cup in Thalland in Oxfolius.

Ponois O'Bullivan is still in contention for a place, back in eight position, but the su-times Embassy world champion Steve Davis would have to win at the Crucible to have any chance of making the team.

Lions to visit SA township

Korsten near Port Elizabeth On May 24.

into the final few weeks.

LIONES ITHMERARY'S May 24e v Eastern Provinces Invitation XV, Part Elizabeth. 28: Western Provinces, Cape Yown. 31: Orange Free Sinte, Blocomiontelin. Jene 4: Transvast, Johannesburg. 7: Northern Transvast, Prototia. 11: South Essern Transvast, Wilbank. 14: Natal, Durban. 17: Erosoging Springboks, Weltangton. 21: First Yest, Capa Town. 24: Border, East London. 28: Second Teel. Durban. 4:: 19: SA Barbariats, Weltern. St Third Test. Johannesburg.

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WOMAN ACCUSES WORLD CHAMPION OF ATTACK IN NIGHTCLUB



Tyson's women: clockwise, with Robin Givens (ex-wife). Desiree Washington (rape victim) and Monica Turner





Kevin Mitchell on the life and loves of the Brownsville boy who discovered Islam while in jail for rape but now finds trouble following him around while out on parole



Tyson back in a corner

son around. The world heavyweight champion has been again of sexual assault, this time in a Chicago nightclub only hours after he had attended a Muslim prayer

Mis lighting career revived by a stunning victory over Frank Bruno last month - and his liberty will be determined in the next day or so as police investigate the complaint, the details of which remained vague last night. giving rise to suspicions among his closest associates that the millionaire boxer

might have been set up.
If guilty, however, and sub-

be returned to the turmoil that engulfed him in 1992 when he was convicted of raping the beauty queen Desiree

Washington He was jailed for six years then and released last March, apparently convinced of the ing for marriage soon to Mon-ica Turner, a divorced trainee doctor who visited him in the Indiana Detention Centre. They have a two-month-old

daughter, Raynor. This time the aggrieved woman from Indiana is said to have arrived with friends at a Southside club called The Clique on Sunday night and If guilty, however, and sub-sequently sent back to prison sions, had either asked to be

rived with a small entourage about 1 am and stayed for two the fighter.
The woman says Tyson

committed "sexual battery", although it was not specified where and when the alleged assault took place. Moody An-Clique, said: "She was never alone with Mike. She was in an open space with him. Mike had two security guards that we hired to protect and watch over him." He said Tyson was

not drinking. Tyson was with his former sparring partner Oliver McCall, a noted wild man who two nights later was arrested in North Carolina for posses sion of martinana.

The complainant said she was treated in a Chicago hospital and released on Monday morning. She filed a complaint with police on Tuesday. Her lawyer Jerry Lee Pecceptised sporting fig. threatened to kill him if he charged with assain; in 1987 Tyson was day. Her lawyer Jerry Lee Pecceptised sporting fig. threatened to kill him if he charged with assain; in 1987 Tyson was celebrity is not a magnet for charged with punching a cowards too.

ROUBLE continues for breaching the conditions introduced to Tyson, who are to follow Mike Ty of his parole, Tyson's life will rived with a small entourage pursue the criminal avenue loud and vulgar hangers on, vened when the fighter tried and also a civil case. She's cared, upset, angry, hurt." Muhammad Siddeeq, who

was instrumental in converting Tyson to Islam during his time in prison, said he was with the fighter earlier on Sunday at a prayer meeting dence to this report," he said. While Tyson's innocence in the legal sense is yet to be de-

termined, the boy from Brownsville is no lamb. Since his release from prison, while cloaked in the respectability of his new religion, he has spent many long nights in the strip clubs of Las Vegas with his fellow fighter James Toney. There were suggestions that he had fondled shop

assistants in a boutlove there.

Tyson, probably the most

an aggressive coterie that in-timidated Bruno when he failed in his defence of his World Boxing Council title in Las Vegas on March 16. Although dedicating him-

self to the rigours of training and freed now from the bouts of heavy drinking that threatened to destroy him before he was imprisoned, Tyson struggles to keep other urges in check. The boxer, who once admitted he did not know the meaning of the world "per-centage", spends indiscrimi-nately and complains he is

not paid enough. Tyson's crime sheet is a long one. Teddy Atlas, his five-year-old son; Jo-el Scott, first trainer, held a pistol to Tyson's head when he was a accused in January of punch-12-year-old delinquent in Catskill, New York, and

tinue fighting was charged last October with punching Tammy Witt, mother of his accused in January of punch-ing a female friend in the face; Ray Mercer has been

first wife, Robin Givens, cata-logued a series of violent attacks; he was later sued by

Phyllis Polaner, who claimed sexual assault and harass-

committed battery in a case

Tyson is not alone among

renegade heavyweights. Tre-vor Berbick, a Tyson ring vic-

Tommy Morrison, who an-

nounced recently he is HIV

positive but wants to con-

Final home run for Yankees' field of dreams



lan Katz

New York Yankees home game and he will point out the spot up in the right-field bleachers where Babe Ruth hit a home run in the stadium's inaugu-ral game, or trace the trajeclet that on May 22 1963 came closer than any ball before or since to leaving the fabled

balipark. But try it five years from now and the chances are you will be met with a blank look, for the Bronx Bombers are poised to abandon the House that Ruth Built. Never mind that Yankee Stadium is synonymous the world over with baseball, or that it was the home of Lou Gehrig and Joe DiMaggio, team owner George Steinbrenner wants out.

Complaining that the crime-infested South Bronx leters fans, Steinbrenner has deftly played off New York city against New Jersey in a sta-dium beauty contest. So terri-fied is New York of seeing the Yanks follow football's Jets and Giants across the Hudson that the city may build a new \$1 billion (\$670 million) sta-dium in Manhattan to keep

them.
Fans and sportswriters are outraged. But though Steinrenner is a mean-spirited figure loathed by every New Yorker, there is, in the hardeaded milieu of American sport, nothing unusual about his scorn for tradition.

Of the 13 great ballparks built between 1909 and 1915. only three, Detroit's Tiger Stadium, Chicago's Wrigley Field and Boston's Fenway Park. survive. Comiskey Park, rubbleised" a few years ago There is endless talk of buildng a new Fenway Park and troit fans may not hold off the developers much longer.

Grumbling about massive wage bills, team owners want car parks and corporate suites, not history and charm instead of the distance from home plate to the right-field boundary, they are concerned with the number of escalators and concession stands. Will there be room for sushi and

It's not just baseball, Last season the Chicago Bulls unceremoniously abandoned the 65-year-old arena where they had just racked up three consecutive NBA championships. They took the keyboard of the famous Barton Organ from "the Barn" to the gleamy United Centre (eight escalators property 500 pages. tors, nine elevators, 50 restrooms) across the street, but not much else. A few months later the Boston Celtics played their last game on the parquet floor of the Boston Garden.

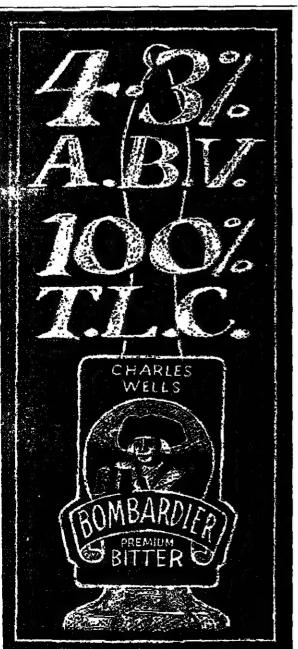
INCE most football stadiums were built more recently, NFL team owners have had less tradition to defile but they have tried hard nevertheless. Last season, for instance, the San Fransisco (9ers took to playing their home games at 3-COM Park instead of Candlestick Park. It's not that they moved anywhere; they just sold the name of the stadium.

The tragedy of abandoning old grounds is greatest in base ball because every ballpark was once different. Unlike other American sports, base ball made no prescriptions for the size of its fields of dreams; the distance from home plate to the centre-field boundary has varied from 390ft to 635ft. Comiskey Park, the story goes, was built for pitchers; Wrigley Field is a hitters'

Every ballpark guards its idiosyncracles jealously. Fen-way Park has the "Green Monster", a great wall across the left outfield that taunts sluggers into swinging for a memorable homer. Wrigley Field is known for the ivy that clings to the old brick walls in deflance of the fierce winds from Lake Michigan. In the 1960s and 1970s such

uirks were all but purged as city after city threw up soulless multi-purpose concrete stadiums with names like SkyDome, Kingdome and Astrodome, But recently ballpark designers have turned back the clock. From home plate of Baltimore's instantly popular Camden Yards, it is just 460ft to the windows of a neighbouring warehouse — close enough to tempt ambistylishly retro Jacobs Fields has transformed the fortunes

of the long-hapless Indians. Few hold out hope for a similarly romantic replacement for Yankee Stadium. Talk, so far, has focussed on a multipupose complex that would double as a conference centre. Perhaps Steinbrenner will take the trouble of installing a plaque on the site of Yankee Stadium like the one that used to mark the spot where the Brooklyn Dodgers played be-fore they headed west in 1957. This is the former home of Ebbet's Field," it declared. "Please, no ballplaying."



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Short'N'Sweet hearing sees two racehorse owners warned off after flapping offences

TWO racehorse owners were warned off for 10 years by the Jockey Club esterday after an inquiry into the betting coup pulled off by the "flapper" Pretty Average at Thirsk last

Patricia Hamilton and Jim McDonald were barred after Pretty Average was found to have been "flapping" — that is running in unlicensed races — in Scotland under the name The disciplinary hearing was concluded in under two

hours after McDonald and Hamilton both acknowledged breaking the rules. Hamilton admitted misleading racecourse stew-ards, while McDonald admitted breaching rules covering involvement with flapping horses, including the running of another

rules by the name of Blue faulds in 1995.

Hamilton denied knowl edge of Short'N'Sweet or that Pretty Average had been flapping when the facts came to light last August. However, the horses had been entered to run in flapping races at Newcastleton, an unli-censed track in the Scottish Borders, this weekend.
This is thought to have brought the hearing to a speedier conclusion.

Pretty Average was a well-backed winner — from 50-1 down to 20-1 — of the Rocom Selling Handicap on July 29 last year, having joined the Lincolnshire trainer Basil Richmond only a few weeks earlier. cleared of any breach of the rules before the inquiry, sent out Pretty Average to finish third in another sell-

ing race two days later but the mare suddenly left his

yard the following week.

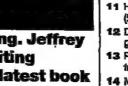
There is no question of the law being broken and involvement with flappers usually means disqualification from ownership of 12

But David Pipe, the Jockey Club director of public affairs, said: "The stewards of the disciplinary committee viewed this as an extremely serious of-fence as the public, book-makers, the Jockey Club and the handicapper had all been deliberately de-ceived for financial gain."

The former jockey and trainer Dermot Browne was the last person to be disqualified. He received a 10-year suspension for, among other charges, giv-ing information to a book-maker for monetary gain.

The last flapper found to be running under rules was in 1984 when Spare Wheel, from Peter Cundell's stable, won the Mildenhall Claiming Stakes at New-market. Spare Wheel, who had run at unlicensed meetings unbeknown to Cun-dell, was disqualified and his owner R G Griffiths warned off for 15 years.

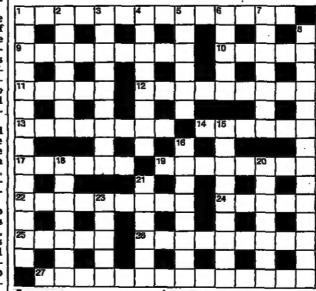




Be prepared for the first hype of spring. Jeffrey Archer has a new book out, in an exciting departure for the literary world, this latest book strays into new territory. It is a "novelography" he has coined the term himself. Joanna Coles

Guardian Crossword No 20,624

Set by Custos



Across 1 Being sacked, presented

(7,3,4)

higher still (9) 10 Girl directing wrath towards

loveless one (5) 11 Human bone found in Troy?

 Distressed men hustle to get a topi (3-6) 13 Ruling oppress

forming with a girl in charge (8)

14 Mum enthusiastic about a foreign religion (6) 17 Stores a king kept in coal-

19 Scene of great victory. leading to Roman hat waving (8) 22 Abandoning waste, I'll get

24 Eastern garments reve by titled person when retiring (5) 25 Type of salmon eaten by aner kangaroos (5)

tax in force (9) 27 Had a wide range of interests, and sported by the meadow (6,3,5)

1 Takes cover and Investigates threshing (4,4,6) 2 'Ard-working journalist,

involved in a row, gets stickler (7) 3 I shall 'ouse Edwin, being unfortunate (3-6)

4 Obtains help? That's denied (8) 5 Call on phone, taking on (6) 6 Strike the man entering

church (5)

WORD SOLUTION 20,823

7 Person in charge underground has arm damaged in small furnace (7)

8 Consulted one's principal and made one tipsy (4,2,4,4)15 He notices vehicle

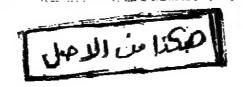
beginning to falter— superior cover needed (9) 16 Slightly dim, Isn't tucking

18 Going astray at Urals, southern (7)

20 Horse, we hear, for principal actress (7) 21 Youngster, comprehending

23 Willing to study, taking years (5)

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^{14 人 李} 中田東日本

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to respect

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